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VOL. XXIII.—NEW SERIES, No. 945.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, DEC. 9, 1863.

PRICE, WITH SUPPLEMENT, { UNSTAMPED .. 5d.
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JOHN WYCLIFFE,

The Morning Star of the Reformation, the Christian Hero and Patriot.

THE AGED PILGRIMS' FRIEND SOCIETY respectfully announce that

HENRY VINCENT, Esq.,

Will deliver a POPULAR ORATION on "The Life, Teachings, and Actions of John Wycliffe; his Influence upon the Christian Life, and the Civil and Religious Liberties of the English People," in the METROPOLITAN TABERNACLE, NEWINGTON, on the Evening of FRIDAY, December 11, 1863. Doors to be opened at Seven o'clock.

Chair to be taken, at Half-past Seven, by the Rev. C. H. SPURGEON.

ADMISSION BY TICKETS—1s., 6d., and 3d. each—to be had of Mr. Murphy, Secretary, 10, Poultry, E.C.; the Warden of the Asylum, Westmoreland-place, Camberwell; Mr. Clubb, Ryelane, Peckham; Mr. Little, Camberwell-green; Mr. Mills, Corrie-place, Old Kent-road; Mr. Deighton, 3, Cumberland-place, Newington; Mr. Ball, St. George's-road, Southwark; Mr. Johnson, 425, Strand; Messrs. Moore and Co., 116, Holborn-hill; Mr. Keen, 226, Tottenham-court-road; Mr. Starling, 97, Upper-street, Islington; Mr. Loomes, 93, St. John-street-road; Mr. Ashton, 97, City-road; Mr. Purvis, 212, Blackfriars-road; Mr. Young, 73, Newgate-street; Mr. Collingridge, 117 to 119, Aldersgate-street; Mr. Morrison, 25, Norton Folgate; Mr. E. Mote, 51, Borough-road; or of any of the Committee.

The whole of the Proceeds will be devoted to the Aged Pilgrims' Friend Society, Mr. Vincent having placed his Services gratuitously at the disposal of the Committee, and the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon the use of his Chapel. The Christian Public are earnestly appealed to for a Crowded Audience.

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Subscriptions or donations are earnestly solicited, and may be forwarded to the Secretary, No. 7, Blomfield-street, Finsbury, E.C.

JOHN CHURCHILL, Treasurer.

HENRY BROMLEY, Honorary Secretary.

APPEAL on BEHALF of the POOR and AFFLICTED WIDOWS of the MINISTERS of the THREE DENOMINATIONS.

The MANAGERS of the WIDOWS' FUND regret that they shall be compelled to give only diminished relief to new cases of distress, however urgent, unless they receive additional public support. At present, they give Annual Grants to 262 cases, and to the amount of 2,570l. They trust that this Appeal will meet with a liberal and prompt response from those who sympathise with Christian Widows in their affliction.

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December, 1863.

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JAMES ASPINALL TOBIN, Esq., in the Chair,

the Report of the Directors for the year 1862 was read; it showed—

| | |
|---|--------------|
| That the Fire Premiums of the year were | £436,065 0 0 |
| Against those in 1861, which were | 360,131 0 0 |

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Giving an increase in 1862 of | £75,934 0 0 |
|-------------------------------|-------------|

| | |
|--|-------------|
| That the New Life Business comprised the issue of 785 Policies, insuring | 467,334 0 0 |
|--|-------------|

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| On which the Annual Premiums were | 13,935 7 11 |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|

| | |
|--|-------------|
| That there was added to the Life Reserve | 79,277 11 4 |
|--|-------------|

| | |
|--|------------|
| That the Balance of Undivided Profit was increased | 25,725 0 7 |
|--|------------|

| | |
|--|---------------|
| That the Invested Funds of the Company amounted to | 1,417,808 8 4 |
|--|---------------|

In reference to the very large increase of 74,000l. in the Fire Premiums of the year, it was remarked in the Report:—"The

Premiums paid to a Company are the measure of that Company's business of all kinds; the Directors therefore prefer

that test of progress to any the duty collected may afford, as

that applies to only a part of a Company's Business, and a

large share of that part may be, and often is, re-insured with

other Offices. In this view the yearly addition to the Fire

Premiums of the Liverpool and London Company must be

very gratifying to the Proprietors."

SWINTON BOULT, Secretary to the Company.

JOHN ATKINS, Resident Secretary, London.

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THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

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Eccliaistical Affairs.

"HEADS, I WIN—TAILS, YOU LOSE."

SOME of our contemporaries, in their eagerness to paralyse the electoral action lately recommended by the Executive Committee of the Liberation Society, appear to us to have given *carte blanche* to Liberal members of Parliament to vote as they please for the future (as many of them, indeed, have done in the past) on all ecclesiastical questions touching the civil rights of those who are outside the pale of the Establishment. If only they sit on the Liberal side of the House, and vote with the Ministry which faces the Conservatives, whatever may be its policy or no-policy, they need not trouble themselves to give any serious heed to the principle of religious equality, nor to the practical measures, however modest, which are steps in advance towards that ultimate goal. If the position insisted upon by certain journals generally understood to represent Dissenting views is to be acted upon, the managers of elections also, who generally take their cue from the whipper-in of the Liberal party, will find themselves spared a vast amount of unnecessary anxiety. It will be an immense relief to both of them to be assured that they may always count upon Dissenting support—that no demands put forward by Nonconforming electors, whether in Parliament or at the hustings, if resisted with sufficient firmness, are meant to be enforced—and that no vote will be withheld from them in future on ecclesiastical grounds, because to withhold a vote on any such plea tends to secession from the Liberal party.

If this be not the common-sense interpretation of the advice tendered to Dissenting electors by some of our contemporaries, we wholly misunderstand the drift of their reasoning. And we shall be glad to be convinced that we are mistaken in this matter, because if so, there is far less difference between them and the Executive Committee of the Liberation Society than they have laboured to represent. Is the public to conclude, are members of Parliament to conclude, are managers of elections to conclude, that it is the deliberate advice of these journals to their readers, that they shall in no case, where ecclesiastical questions are in dispute, refuse to record their votes in favour of a candidate associated with the Liberal party, if by such refusal his election would be endangered? If this really be the purport of their advice, and if it may be safely assumed that it will be generally followed, then the votes of present members, and the character of future ones, will depend pretty much upon themselves. Now, as the representative class consists, for the most part, of men whose birth, education, traditions, and sympathies attach them to the Church as by law established, we have the best reason for expecting that, relieved from all pressure, they will seldom spon-

taneously expose themselves to the reproach of treating with indifference the privileges of the Church to which they belong. Why should they care more about the principles of religious equality, than those of their constituents who profess to attach high importance to them? Why should they vote for any measure framed upon those principles, if by so doing they should embarrass a Liberal Ministry, when they have good reason to believe that for the sake of that or any similar measure the very men who put it forward would not imperil their election?

It appears to us that the Liberal party scarcely required this new encouragement to neglect the questions in which Dissenters take a deeper interest than most of their fellow-countrymen. As a whole, it has not been very zealous to give effect to our views. We have exhibited exemplary forbearance towards that section of the party by which nearly every claim of ours to an equality of civil rights with others, irrespective of religious faith, has been regarded as presumptuous. If, in our insisting upon a reasonable instalment of that claim to justice, their refusal to listen to it should endanger their power, does it not seem reasonable that the responsibility of provoking division should be thrown upon them? Instead of this, what are we recommended to do? To let them know that if they only hold out to the last against us, we will do our best to return them as our representatives in Parliament, without exacting from them even a moderate concession to our views. They will, no doubt, applaud our wisdom publicly. What estimate they will put upon it privately is another matter. But we may say that, practically, the course does not seem to us calculated to raise the tone of the Liberal party, especially upon ecclesiastical questions, which are becoming, in fact, the prominent questions of the day. Indeed, if this is to be accepted as the established rule by which we are to be guided in the exercise of our political power, we might, so far as our distinctive principles are concerned, as well be disfranchised.

Either there is a line beyond which members of Parliament are not to consider themselves at liberty to resist the claims of their Dissenting constituents, or there is not. If it is to be generally understood that no such limit will be insisted upon, it may easily be foreseen that such questions, for example, as the abolition of Church-rates, will very speedily be thrust back into a position of neglect and contempt. If, on the other hand, members and candidates are not to be allowed unrestricted liberty in respect of the spirit and mode in which they shall deal with the whole range of ecclesiastical questions, then it is evident that at some point or other restraining force must be exercised. A refusal to vote for the member who thus transgresses the boundary which separates permissible from non-permissible opposition, constitutes the restraining force, and, unless we are to conclude that our contemporaries would allow of its being put forth in no case, at the risk of the loss of a seat to the Liberal party,—a construction we are loath to put upon their reasoning—it remains, of course, that there may be cases in which the friends of religious equality would be justified in withholding their sanction from representative acts, omissions, or professions, contravening their own views. But this, in principle, is precisely the same thing as that affirmed by the resolution of the Executive Committee.

If those electors who desire to help on the cause of religious equality in the kingdom are not recommended to suspend altogether the use in its behalf of their political power, the difference between the policy propounded by the Liberation Society, and that urged by the journals to which we refer, relates, not to the rule of conduct, but to the time, manner, and degree in which it shall be applied. The substance of the advice given by the former is—"Demand something in favour of your principles—measure that something by your local strength—but, taking care to exact a recognition of no more than your numbers on the register fairly entitle

you to claim, use it as an *ultimatum*—a *sine qua non*—which being declined, you also decline concurrence in the election." Even this, however, is not recommended as a rule to be acted upon in all possible circumstances. A general election may turn upon some great and urgent question.—a Reform Bill, for instance, or a war with America. There may be obvious reasons of high national importance why Dissenters should hold in abeyance for the time being any or all the questions in which they are specially interested. The policy of the Executive Committee is conceived for ordinary, not extraordinary times. That application of it which might be suitable to-morrow, might be utterly unsuitable next year—that which might be resorted to in one constituency might, in another, be ludicrously inapposite. Everywhere the success of this line of action will greatly depend, no doubt, upon the judgment, temper, and tact with which it is carried into effect—but, inasmuch as all this has been foreseen and acknowledged, we are at a loss to discover the grounds on which the policy can be reasonably characterised as unpatriotic, rash, and suicidal.

Our honest conviction is that there is, and must be, less difference than there seems between those friends of the Liberation Society who support, and those who repudiate, the new policy, and that such as there is arises mainly out of a misunderstanding of its scope and purpose. For this, it is said, we have none but ourselves to blame. Be it so! Without admitting the justice of the rebuke, we will not retaliate it. But let the blame be where it may, the misapprehension having been cleared up, let us get as quickly as possible to the real point of divergence between adherents and objectors, and examine it dispassionately. If we are to give *carte blanche* to Liberals on ecclesiastical questions, let us at least forecast how that measure is likely to work. If we are not, let it be pointed out wherein the error of the Executive Committee consists. Nothing is gained by setting up men of straw to knock them down again. The real question to be decided is,—are the Liberals to be encouraged in future to state the conditions of their union with the Dissenters in terms equivalent to, "Heads, I win—tails, you lose."

ECCLIASTICAL NOTES.

HAPPY is it for the members of the Town Council of Newcastle that they do not live in the days of the Prince Bishops! If the discussion which took place amongst them on Wednesday last, had occurred in the days of King John instead of in the days of Queen Victoria, they would, long before this, have become denizens of Durham Castle. For the Town Council, as a body, has flouted the Bishop of Durham, and its members individually have expressed themselves in the most contemptuous and disrespectful manner, not only of his lordship, but of certain functions appertaining to his office. The bishop, in these days, cannot, of course, send a troop of light-armed followers, to take possession of the persons of the town councillors, but he can do an almost equally-vexatious thing—he can put them into Chancery, and this is what Bishop Baring has done. Here is the story, as we gather it from official documents, letters, and speeches. Newcastle, like most old towns, is a place with both narrow streets and broad streets. In ancient days, when there were no railway-stations, the relative positions of the broad and the narrow streets was not a matter of very great importance. But in the course of time a railway came to Newcastle, and a station, called the Central Station, was thereupon built. Since those days it had been ascertained—felt, in fact, by nearly all the inhabitants—that the approaches to the Central Station might be made much more safe and convenient than they are at present. To effect this very desirable object, the Town Council have proposed, first, to make a new street, and secondly to cut off the acute angle of another street. They pro-

ceeded to do this. With the new street there was not much difficulty, but to convert an acute into an obtuse angle, or to cut off the angle altogether, was more than the bishop of the diocese could stand. For, as it appears, the angle had to be cut out of a churchyard. But the Town Council did not take possession of it without making fair and honourable terms. They asked the vicar, as freeholder, what his price was, and, like honourable men, paid it (50*l.*), investing the money, as the law demands, in trust for the benefit for the vicarage. And here the Bishop stepped in. Apply a piece of consecrated ground to such a secular and useful purpose as a street? His lordship had never heard of such a thing. Disturb the remains of the dead? It cannot be allowed. And so his lordship forthwith, and without any preliminary consultation, files, in the name of the churchwardens, a bill in Chancery against the Town Council.

A few facts now intervene. First, that the acute angle was originally part of an old street; secondly, that it had been added to the old churchyard, but never used as a burial-place; thirdly, that it had never been consecrated; fourthly, that no dead rested in its grounds; fifthly, that the Bishop enters the action against the Town Council in the name of the churchwardens without informing those gentlemen of the circumstance, and so compelling them to come forward and state that they do not authorise any proceedings in their names; and sixth, that the churchyard, old and new, is altogether disused. One would have thought that these would have been hard facts even for a Bishop, but not so. His lordship, in the most dignified and episcopal manner, ignores them altogether, and excepting in the Vice-Chancellor's Court, declines all controversy. Not so, however, the members of the Town Council. Alderman Phipson, Churchman and magistrate, commenting upon them, says they are "a piece of bigotry, prejudice, and superstition," and wonders whether the apostles of old were at all familiar with Ecclesiastical Courts or were acquainted with the modern mode of using threats of pains and penalties? Mr. Harford, who had no views with regard to consecration, thought, without intending any disrespect to the Bishop, that his notions were the stupid and foolish notions of an imbecile old man. Mr. Hamond, Churchman and magistrate, and who had evidently entertained exalted sentiments with respect to bishops in general, expressed his opinion, first, that it was not what he should have expected from one whom they looked up to as teaching them the road from earth to heaven, and secondly, that it was such men as the Bishop that caused Dissent. Alderman Ingledew, Churchman, thought the churchwardens need not fear the Episcopal thunders, and that the whole proceeding was "a monstrosity." Lastly, the town-clerk wound up the debate by declaring that he could not fully appreciate the effect of consecration. And so it was agreed to take legal advice, and act accordingly.

Some men are born to folly, some men achieve folly, some men have folly thrust upon them. The Bishop of Durham is of the second class. Suppose that in virtue of some canon, five centuries in age, he should be able to restrain the course of this improvement, what will he have gained? He will have asserted the legal validity of Episcopal consecration. Not consecration according to its meaning when the old canons are passed, for then "holy water" was used, and the ground was pronounced holy for ever. We believe that some people have a notion that something of the same kind is done in consecration now, and do not dream of its being anything more than the completion of a legal ceremonial by which the ground is simply set apart for a particular purpose. A certain Welsh bishop used to perform this ceremony in his hunting jacket and on the back of his favourite horse, despatching it with a pen in about half a minute. Modern bishops perambulate the grounds and sign the certificate afterwards. The Bishop of Durham, however, is not yet rid of the Roman Catholic notion, and evidently entertains a sacred horror of violating the supposed consecrated angle of St. John's-lane. Was it Bishop Maltby who consecrated it,—he who returned his yearly income to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners at some 10,000*l.* to 12,000*l.* less than it was? Very holy ground it must, in that case, be. But, apart from this, we should have thought that in the present state of the Church, even a bishop could not afford to excite against its orders and ceremonies, the anger, scorn, and contempt of all intelligent Churchmen.

Just as the Bishop of Durham is making the Church unpopular in Newcastle, the Archbishop of York is making it equally unpopular in Whitby. Our readers may remember the story of the Whitby Burial Case, which we told some time ago. In this

case the incumbent of the parish refused to bury a deceased parishioner, and the service, after the mourners had waited in vain for their own spiritual guide, counsellor, and comforter, was performed by a Primitive Methodist minister. It now appears that the public cemetery in which this occurred was only temporarily licensed by the Archbishop; who refuses, in consequence of this act, to consecrate it. Some controversy is proceeding on this subject, and we believe that the Burial Board will, with the most profound indifference to consecration even by an archbishop, leave his grace to do what he pleases. Whether the Archbishop is astonished that his threat has produced no better effect, we do not know; but threats of this kind, that fail of their intention, are awkward accidents in an Episcopal career.

Sectarianism will go far, but we have seldom known it to go farther in one direction than it has recently done at Worcester. At a meeting of the Book Hawking Society in that town, the Rev. M. Amphlett drew attention to the fact that although the association was based on Church principles, he found that such books as the "Sinner Saved" by Mr. Newman Hall, were sold by the hawkers. "These works," the rev. gentleman went on to remark, "did not set forth the truths of the Church of England, or if they did, they stated them in such a way that it was left to the option of the reader to accept them or not, a most objectionable principle. It seemed to him that the selection of such productions acted in some measure as a reflection on the works of the divines of the Church of England, and that it was tantamount to admitting that the Church had not enough good authors of her own without going to the writings of Dissenters. He did strongly object to the dissemination of such books, and thought clergymen should be allowed to enter their veto against their being brought into their parishes, as was the rule with the society existing in another county." Did it not occur to the rev. gentleman that the Bible was open to exactly the same objection? Or is Mr. Amphlett one of those who protest against the Scriptures being circulated without the Prayer-book?

The Ipswich controversy continues. To the Low-Church lectures have succeeded a series of High-Church ditto, the third of which, on Apostolical Succession, was delivered by Dr. Oldknow. Dr. Oldknow took the usual High-Church line on this subject, but at the close of his lecture departed from the topic in hand to administer a grave rebuke to his Low-Church brethren:—

"You are not ignorant," he said, "that I appear before you, in common with some who have preceded and some who are to follow me, at the request of an influential body of Churchmen in this town, who have felt themselves called upon to do what they could to provide for the defence of certain principles, in their opinion of vital importance as distinctively characteristic of the Church, which some of their brethren have recently made the object of their opposition and attack. I must confess that it was with surprise that I heard of this step on the part of our Low-Church friends. But little more than a year ago the party to which they belong were reproached by the Dissenters with belonging to a communion whose tenets they did not heartily receive, and were exhorted to imitate the example of these Nonconformist ministers whose departure from the Establishment they were themselves preparing to commemorate. Our brethren manifested great indignation at this reproach, and seemed anxious to secure the countenance, if not the aid, of those who are termed 'High Churchmen,' in their endeavours to repel it. Much was said of the advantage of being united among ourselves—of the duty of sinking our differences, and acting together to withstand the assaults of the common enemy. In particular I well remember that at a meeting of the Society for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts, held in the Town Hall, Birmingham, at which Lord Nelson was officially present, allusion was made by an eminent member of the Low-Church party to another meeting connected with the Bicentenary commemoration that was to be held in the same hall a day or two after." "I little expected," continued Dr. Oldknow, "that they who last year seemed so desirous to ally themselves with us, as brethren, would so soon turn round upon us as foes and adversaries; and still less that, if such were their tactics, they would be able to secure the aid of our monitor himself," (alluding to the Rev. Dr. Miller, of Birmingham) "to make it appear that controversy with us was 'a Scriptural duty!' Surely, even in their own estimation, there is nothing to make the principles which we believe are only those of the Church, more dangerous or objectionable, or the 'times' more 'critical' with respect to them, than they were a year ago!"

The *Times* has opened its columns to a correspondence on Church Patronage and the Ecclesiastical Commission. The letter-writers tell a terrible tale of clerical poverty and of Ecclesiastical Commission abuses. Three months ago, when a similar correspondence took place, the *Times*, supposing that the recommendation of the House of Commons' committee would be carried out, gave up the Commission to merited destruction. Now, however, having evidently received information that it is not the intention of the Government to propose such a measure,

it jocularly expresses the mild hope that the Commissioners have "sown all their wild oats," and will in future deal out both justice and favour with an equal hand. Are the clergy to wait for this? The last report of the Poor Clergy Relief Society informs us that "from well-established statistics it appears that there are five thousand curates ministering in the Church in England and Wales, whose incomes do not exceed 80*l.* per annum, many hundreds of whom have not even so much as 50*l.* per annum; while there are not less than five thousand beneficed clergymen whose incomes from the Church are under 150*l.* per annum." This report also informs us that "the applications for aid by no means diminish; but, on the contrary, become more urgent, more numerous, and more painful to refuse." We are glad to notice that the number of dignitaries who support this society is increasing. This year there are six bishops who contribute to its funds, and they give in all 31*l.*—the Bishop of Rochester putting down his name for 1*l.* But it must be remembered that all the bishops are Ecclesiastical Commissioners, and that it may occur to them that, as they give out of the public purse, there is no necessity for drawing from their private resources.

It is with some pain that we have seen, in connection with this society, the following advertisement, to which we give all the publicity that we can:—

THE REVEREND W. G. JERVIS, incumbent of East Moulsey, and sole originator and founder of the Poor Clergy Relief Society, died on the 19th of last month, after a lingering illness, at the early age of forty-one. His illness was partly caused and his death hastened by his intense zeal and untiring exertions in behalf of the poor clergy and their families, whose pressing wants were relieved by the society he was so instrumental in founding. His widow is left with seven children (under fourteen years of age), not only embarrassed with debts necessarily contracted from the expenses of a long illness and a very scanty income, but also without sufficient means for their future maintenance and education. Under these painful circumstances an appeal is now made to the public, in the earnest hope that it will not suffer the widow and children of him to whom, who devoted his life for many years to the relief of the necessities and sufferings of his poor brethren among the clergy and their widows and orphans. References are permitted to the following clergymen and gentlemen, and contributions may be paid to them, or into the London and Westminster Bank, St. James's-square, who have kindly allowed an account to be opened for the purpose. All contributions will be acknowledged in the *Times*:—R. Barton, Esq., Caldys Manor, Birkenhead; Rev. A. D. D'Orsey, English lecturer at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge; Rev. F. Palmer, Sunninghill, near Staines; Rev. F. Shum, Marlborough, Wilts; Mr. F. Last, 13, Gray's-inn-square, London; W. H. Hammerton, Esq., and J. Coldman, Esq., churchwardens of East Moulsey.

We should hope that this appeal will not be made in vain.

Many of our readers are, we daresay, in the habit of attending the admirable lectures of the Young Men's Association at Exeter Hall. The course this year was commenced by Professor Owen, a man to whom, apart from his scientific eminence, the defenders of the inspired Record of Revelation are under some obligations for the ability with which he has confuted the theories of Professor Huxley and Dr. Darwin. In his lecture the Professor incidentally stated the fact that physical death was in the world before the creation of man, and therefore before sin. We are given to understand that, in consequence of this and of the Professor's refusal to omit this statement, the committee decline to print his lecture. Is this possible? Are we once more to have repeated, with needful variation, the story of Galileo and the Inquisition?

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS ON THE ELECTORAL POLICY OF THE LIBERATION SOCIETY.

The *Norfolk News*, in "A word of warning to the Whigs," complains that they have not performed their share of the contract with the Liberal party.

The present Government came into power upon the pledge and condition that they would carry out a defined Reform policy. It was a definite bargain. They have had their part of it—years of place and pay. But the people have not had theirs. The stipulated price of popular support remains unpaid to this hour. Were this an affair of ordinary trade or dealing it would be called a swindle, and would be a case for the Central Criminal Court or some such tribunal. As, however, great people are "on the other side," recourse must be had to a milder form of proceeding, and we must confine our animadversions within Parliamentary bounds.

The *Norfolk News* would, however, give Lord Palmerston and Co. a *locus penitentia*:—

A few months—perhaps more than a few months—will intervene before the indictment against Palmerston and Co. is tried. There is time, there is still space for repentance. Will they do something or say something—meaning what they say—as a ground or cause why judgment should not pass on them? We presume that they must plead guilty should the trial come on, for they

cannot gainsay the charge that they have not done what they ought to have done.

They may ask, "What can we do now, and what do we want?" We want only the fulfilment of promises. Years, many years, ago, these Whigs gained power by promising justice in the matter of the Irish Church. They have done nothing since. The promise remains unfulfilled, a terrible witness against them. They more recently promised distinctly and emphatically a good measure of Parliamentary Reform. They gained office on this. It remains a still more terrible witness against them. They obtained tens of thousands of votes in the various constituencies from the great Nonconformist body, on the promise that something should be done in furtherance of religious liberty. They have done nothing. Even in the matter of Church-rates they have left it as it was, have left it—a universally admitted grievance—unredressed, and have suffered the adverse Tory whip to steal away vote after vote from the Treasury benches to the pro-Church-rate side. In these things they have sinned grievously against the people. And when they ask what we want, our answer is—"That you should be honest, fulfil your pledges, and do your duty!"

These Whigs may be curious to know what will happen if they refuse to be honest. It is not civil to threaten, but should they ask, the answer is ready: "Condemn you—leave you in the lurch—let the hungry Tories loose upon you and upon your fat pastures." The Tories have already a sharp appetite, and the cold winter will make it sharper still—it will be uncontrollably sharp by February next. If when the day of trial comes the people are found in their present mood, it will go badly with the Whigs. It would be unkind of us, who foresee the disaster which threatens them, not to give warning of the fact, and thus afford them a chance of escape. Therefore it is we speak plainly. The Reform pledges must be fulfilled—the instalments of religious liberty which are in arrears to us and to Ireland must be paid up. In a word, a manly Liberal policy must be inaugurated and sustained, or at the next hustings court, when Whig supplicants ask for mercy, the people's heart will be hard, hard as "the nether millstone."

The *Inquirer* (Unitarian) entirely disapproves of the new policy, as indeed it does to a great extent of the Liberation Society itself. Our contemporary assumes—without any warrant—that its promoters intend to divide the party by throwing the whole strength of the Dissenters into the ranks of the Conservatives, and imitating the wretchedly narrow and shortsighted policy of the Chartists at the time of the Reform Bill and free-trade agitation. Such a policy is well calculated "to lessen the legitimate influence of Dissent, and to compel moderate Liberals to throw themselves into the ranks of the Conservative and State-Church party." "If supported by the great body of Dissenters it may possibly succeed in handing over the destinies of our country, for some years to come, into the hands of the Tory party, and infinitely damage the prospects of that true Nonconformity whose sphere and influence are mainly religious and not political."

The *Bradford Review*, in a second article on the subject, shows that the scheme is both just and reasonable, and not amenable to the censures which have been cast upon it, as implied by the epithets "factious," "unsafe," "inexpedient," "intolerant," "mischievous," "disastrous," "suicidal," &c. The question is thus fairly and accurately stated. Perhaps the editor of the *Inquirer* may benefit by reading the subjoined:—

1. It refers to action at elections, and therefore to the conduct of electors. The proposal says that a certain body of electors—a portion of what is called the Liberal party—should seek for the practical recognition of their views,—for their representation in Parliament, in proportion to their numbers on the register; that is, according to their numerical strength. Is not this perfectly equitable and right? To us the equity of such a course seems self-evident. No arguments could possibly render its justice clearer than its simple enunciation. If the friends of religious equality had said—whatever may be our strength on the register, or whatever may be our proportion of the Liberal party, we insist on the full representation of our views, on all occasions; and demand that all Liberal candidates shall go our length, then the demand would be flagrantly unreasonable; but they ask nothing of the kind. The policy merely affirms that the friends of religious equality shall be represented according to their number, and they lay down this as a condition of their acting in conjunction with others at elections. All men have a perfect right to lay down a principle as the condition of their union with others. If this principle is not to be recognised, what is the result—palpable injustice. If they are not to be represented according to their numerical strength—if their views are to be wholly ignored, it is clear the other section of the Liberal party, be they the minority or majority, will dictate political conduct to the rest; that is, by the very hypothesis, they will trample on the rights of the friends of religious equality. Is this reasonable?

2. The carrying out of the proposal is only an exemplification or fulfilment of the conditions on which party action is possible. We suppose every party consists of persons entertaining different opinions on some important questions. Hence it comes to consist of sections, and the views of these different sections must have influence in the action of the party as the very condition of coherence. There can be no just and honourable co-operation and united action except on such a basis. We are told that party action, under such circumstances, is only possible through compromises—that there cannot be a great party unless its members or sections are willing to concede for the sake of union and strength. Exactly so; but is all the concession to be on one side? Are the most energetic and earnest members of a party always to sink their opinions? Do not all compromises profess to proceed upon some principle of equity and fairness between the parties seeking associated action for the attainment of a worthy object? This is all that the policy

of the Liberation Society recommends. It maintains that fidelity to their principles, as well as self-respect, demand that the friends of religious equality should insist upon the representation of their views in proportion to their numbers as the condition of their acting with others.

From these statements two or three things may be inferred as to what the policy is not.

1. It is not factious. By no authorised explanation of what constitutes a factious course, can the conduct recommended by the Liberation Society be so denominated. The object they seek to obtain by their policy, is not only a worthy object, but one of the highest—the equality of all citizens in the eye of the law, irrespective of their religious views. It is not, therefore, a narrow, sectarian, selfish, or sordid object. The friends of religious equality are seeking for no privilege or advantage for themselves, but simply for the abolition of wrongs inflicted upon them by unjust laws. Then, this object is clearly and openly set forth, and the means to be employed for its attainment are legal, constitutional, and honourable. It is not attempted to deprive any class of citizens of their rights, to weaken or embarrass the Government, or to thwart any other party by unworthy means. Who can say that there is anything clamorous or obstructive in such a policy?

2. It does not mean an alliance with the Tories. This has been said in order to frighten Liberals; but nothing could be more unfounded. Are not the friends of religious equality the most advanced or Radical section of the great Liberal party? Again, are they not the truest and most earnest of that party? Are they not remarkable for their firm adherence to principle, and is it not this fidelity which is constraining them to take their present position? We therefore ask—are these men likely to unite with the Tories who have always maintained a state religion? We know it is said, the proposed course will be an indirect support of the Tories, if not an immediate alliance. The reply of the friends of religious equality is simple. They say—we are not responsible for this, but we have been forced to stand aloof because the Liberal party refused to unite with us on a basis of bare justice. It is the unfaithfulness of the Liberal party to the great principles of such a party, and their determination to trample on the rights of the best members of that party, that would give the Tories power. They further say—we stand by our principles irrespective of the fights for office between the Whigs and the Tories. Moreover, it is very fine to hear the Whigs of this day try to frighten the Liberals, by the cry of the Tories in power! Why, through the apathy and treachery of this party, and especially through the influence of its present leaders, there is little or no difference between the general policy of the Whigs and the Tories. What is the difference? Is it anything worth contending for? Is not the Liberal party losing all earnestness and vitality under its present leaders?

3. The policy does not mean dictation or intolerance. How can any thoughtful, honest man charge this upon the proposal? The project only requires that the friends of religious equality shall be represented according to their numbers. They seek no influence beyond that which belongs to their legitimate numerical strength on the register. In this dictation or intolerance? What intelligent man can honestly say it is? Certainly, the friends of religious equality have been dictated to long enough, and now that they will submit to it no longer, they are charged, forsooth, with dictation! They now say—we insist that both sections of the Liberal party, or all sections, shall have an influence in the action of the party proportionate to their strength; and if you will not agree to this just and reasonable request, we must decline to give you our support. We must stand by our principles. We must either share in the good to be gained by union and effort, or we will not join in the union and the effort.

"THE CAMBRIA DAILY LEADER" AND THE LIBERATION POLICY.

A short article misrepresenting the object of the new movement of the Liberation Society appeared in the *Cambria Leader*, the Welsh daily paper, and drew forth an admirable reply from the Rev. E. Griffiths, of Tenby. After some remarks on the term, "political Dissenters," a term which their opponents have applied to them, and which means simply Dissent from a political Church, Mr. Griffiths goes on to say:—

I would then repeat with emphasis your question, "Are Dissenters forgetting their vocation?" It is matter for much thankfulness that many who did forget are now awaking to a sense of their vocation—of the vocation to which by assuming the name "Dissenters" they have submitted themselves—nor can there be reason to regret that passing and coming events are a fire that severely tests the stuff of which Dissent is made. Much of this adventitious matter had already been dispersed, but none of the elements, and when all that is foreign to its true composition shall have passed off there will remain, it may be, a small, but, I think, not contemptible residue of distilled Dissent. Internal and external reforms in the Established Church, no less than unreasonable Conservatism will help to purify—that is, reveal the political and sole constituent element of Dissent.

Has not the great Master by whose name they are known got better work for them to do than this? I presume it is not here intended to pay Dissenters the compliment of implying that the great Master was a Dissenter; but if the meaning be, "Has not the great Master got better work for Dissenters to do than this?" and if by "this work" is meant the attempt to obtain by all legitimate means the recognition of their distinctive principles, I reply, "the great Master has for them as Dissenters no better work to do": for in relation to their great Master in Heaven they are not Dissenters but Christians. It is in respect of their assumed great master on earth that they are Dissenters, and in endeavouring to obtain deliverance from the latter they are fulfilling a portion of their duty to the former, for "one is your Master, even Christ."

It is not strange that the desire to impose a name intended to stigmatise, however much it may serve eventually to sweep the path to intelligent apprehension, should also be willing to misrepresent the ultimate purposes Dissenters would fain see accomplished. It is not a question of "who shall divide the temporalities of the

Church of England." The Dissenters reject with scorn the imputation that they seek for the purposes of religion any participation in the temporalities of the Established Church. But if it be meant that they desire to be excused from compulsory payments in support of a section of the Church, and that due regard being had to existing interests, what remains of temporalities which are not the property of the Church of England, but of the nation, should be applied to national secular uses, then, and in that sense only, would they divide the temporalities. But if this is the meaning of the words in which you have chosen to state the question at issue, you have admirably succeeded in concealing it, and have equally well succeeded in producing on the mind of a general reader an impression as untruthful as it is repulsive. But whether due to gross carelessness or moral obliquity, I would urge the inexpediency of assumed indifference to, or ignorance of, what is now patent to all, very painfully so to some.

The propriety of the recent decision of the executive committee of the Liberation Society may be questioned even by supporters of the society. I agree with you that such a policy involves a "choice of evils," but I think that of two evils the lesser has been chosen, namely, the support, even though it should be simply negative, that will be thereby given to a political party whose acknowledged policy and historical antecedents have been opposed to Liberalism. But this lesser evil is modified by a review of their most recent history, and by the avowed advances made in the direction of a Liberal policy. The greater evil would be the continued support of a party whose foreign and domestic policy there is no reason to believe, has been in the present, or would be in the next Parliament, better than that of the Conservatives; the continued support of men who have at this time no claim beyond the past history of their party and their present Liberal name, and who have been of late consistent only in scornfully withholding the most moderate demands made by their faithful supporters; nor were these demands trifling or capricious, but they involved the recognition of principles more sacred and weighty than it is possible for any party to be. Their cry has hitherto been, "Party because of Principle," and now they are compelled to decide between these two things. If they are driven to cry, "Party or Principle," will their consciences chide them if they decide that Principle shall stand first and Party second? And is there apostasy involved in the resolution that until they can honourably unite the support of their convictions with that of those who, though avowing them, practically deny them, they will be no parties in an unholy alliance.

The course of electoral action recommended by the executive of the Liberation Society, and which has been so publicly enunciated as to leave no room for misapprehension, is not identical with your statement of it: that "unless a candidate pledges himself to vote for the separation of the Church of England from all State control, he is not to receive the support of Nonconformists." The Liberation Society is a practical body, and the pledge recommended to be obtained from candidates for the suffrages of Dissenters will have respect to certain well-known, distinct, and tangible measures, which aim at removing some portion of the disabilities under which true and loyal subjects are placed, because of their religious convictions. The friends of the Liberation Society are not unmindful of other obligations, but they have reason to conclude that at the present juncture there is no political obligation so imperative as that which calls upon them to demand the legislative recognition of their claims in respect of education, the burial of their dead, and the holding of civil offices, irrespective of their views of Divine truth; and they would, at the approaching elections, demand only those things which have already secured a large amount of legislative and national sympathy, leaving to future electors and candidates, be it a long or a short time hence, to settle the balance.

If it were indeed a squabble for "temporalities," it might, perhaps, be regarded as a "miserable controversy." But if we may judge it by the spirit of truth, or even by the spirit of the age, by the recent decisions of our colonies, by the course of our own legislation, by the increasing prominence everywhere given to these questions, by the desperate efforts made to defeat the objects of the controversy, by the thousand indications that the great coming legislative struggle will be fought on ecclesiastical ground, by the tendency of all interfering questions to retire and leave an open field for this, and, above all, by the fact that it concerns the purity and efficiency of the hosts organised to establish the kingdom of Heaven on earth, it is not so "miserable" a controversy.

CHURCH-RATES IN THE PARISHES.

WELLINGTON, SOMERSET.—MAGISTRATES' JURISDICTION OUSTED.—On Thursday last the summonses issued on the information of the churchwardens of Wellington, against the Rev. George W. Humphreys and the Rev. Daniel Best Sherry, for refusing to pay the Church-rate of this parish, were heard at the police-court. There was an overflowing attendance. Mr. W. Burridge conducted the case for the churchwardens, and Mr. John Bennett, of Serjeants'-inn, London, appeared on behalf of the defendants. In the course of the proceedings, the witnesses for the prosecution were severely catechised by Mr. Bennett, who elicited that a rate had been levied for the repair of the church tower, which had not been made, but the money had been appropriated to other purposes. Subsequently, in addressing the bench, Mr. Bennett contended that there were items in the rate which were in excess, and which made the rate bad. There was, in the sight of the law, money in the churchwardens' hands. A sum was voted by the vestry for the repair of the tower, which had been applied by the churchwardens to other purposes. It had not been expended for the purpose for which it was voted, and, therefore, instead of asking for 264*l.* to repair the tower, they ought to have asked for a much smaller sum. This showed that it was a rate in excess. The money had no right to be used for any other purpose than that to which it was granted by the vestry. Mr. Bennett made other objections to the validity of the rate, and the magistrates said this defence being set up,

it ousted their jurisdiction. (Applause.) Mr. Burridge said he should take the case into the Ecclesiastical Court. Mr. Bennett said he should be most happy to meet Mr. Burridge there.

AN ILLEGAL RATE.—At a recent vestry-meeting at Shaldon, Teignmouth, a threepenny rate having been proposed, Mr. C. D. S. Veale proposed as an amendment, "That this vestry deems it inexpedient to levy any Church-rate whatever, but that the funds for the necessary repairs of the church be raised by voluntary contributions." He handed it to the chairman (the vicar), who refused to put it to the meeting. Mr. Veale protested. The chairman then put the motion for the rate, and ten hands were held up for it, but he deliberately refused to put the contrary. Mr. Veale again protested against the illegality of his proceeding, and took down the names of all who were against the rate, which were fourteen, giving a majority of four against the rate. The chairman read what he had written in the rate-book, which concluded with, "and that a 3d. rate for the purpose had been moved and seconded, and is hereby granted." A burst of indignation followed this announcement.

SAUNDERSFOOT.—At a vestry-meeting in this parish on the 19th ult., to make a rate of 1s. in the pound in aid of a fund for restoring the Church of St. Issella, Mr. Lennard proposed, and Captain Child seconded, "That the repairs of the church be completed by voluntary subscriptions." E. Wilson, Esq., of Hean Castle, moved as an amendment, and was seconded by Mr. W. Foley, "That a Church-rate of 1s. in the pound be made, to be collected in two instalments." Another amendment was proposed by Mr. Lennard, and seconded by Captain Child, "That this meeting be adjourned till this day six months." The last amendment being put to the meeting, it was carried by a majority of 12, the numbers being 21 to 9.

OXFORD.—THE MAGISTRATES' JURISDICTION OUSTED.—Mr. Alderman Hatch was summoned before the City Court, Oxford, on the 27th ult., for refusing to pay 34s., Church-rate of 6d. in the pound, made last Midsummer. Mr. T. Mallam appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Bennett, of London, for the defendant. Mr. Woodward deposed to the making of the rate after the usual notice (which, however, he had not preserved), and to Mr. Hatch refusing to pay on the ground that he was a Dissenter. In cross examination he stated that the market was not rated, and Mr. Mallam said that it was exempted under the town clerk's advice. The various items of the rate having been discussed, Mr. Bennett contended that the rate was bad, on account of valuable property in the market being excludable, the law requiring all property to be assessed, and the fact of its not being a residence making no difference when there was a beneficial occupation. He also objected to emendations in the estimate after the rate was made, but this he would not press. Mr. Mallam replied that the vestry had since taken legal advice, and were told the markets could not be assessed, and he quoted a judgment that stall-keepers were not rateable. He held that the defendant not having disputed the validity until now, the magistrates' jurisdiction was not ousted, the objection not being *bona fide*. He only wished the market could be rated. The magistrates, after having retired for deliberation, decided, a legal objection having been raised, they had no jurisdiction, and that the matter must be left to another tribunal.

SURREY CONGREGATIONAL UNION.

This body has just held its first annual meeting under very favourable auspices. It is to hold two meetings in the year; one in London in December, and the other in June, in the country portion of the county. The Congregational church at Peckham having given to the Union a cordial invitation, the first metropolitan meeting was held in that neighbourhood. On Monday evening a service was held in Hanover Chapel, when the Rev. Messrs. Betts, Byrnes, and Baldwin Brown officiated, the last-named gentleman delivering a striking sermon from the words, "Men that had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do."

On the following morning the ministers and delegates met for the transaction of business in the newly-erected Collyer memorial schools. There was a very good attendance. Mr. Benjamin Scott, president of the Union, being prevented attending by a public engagement, his place was well filled by Mr. Franklin Allport, who, after a devotional exercise, opened the proceedings in a brief address.

The business was introduced by the reading of very practical reports, presented by the Rev. R. W. Betts, the London secretary, and the Rev. A. Mackennal, the country secretary. Both reports stated that district meetings had been held in various parts of the county, and that the searching inquiries, and the practical statements, made at those meetings augured well for the future usefulness of the Union. It had been agreed to give pecuniary aid to a weak church at Rotherhithe, to enable it to supply the pulpit effectively. It had also been resolved to hold Sunday-evening services at the Bermondsey Baths during the winter months, and Mr. Mills, M.P., had given 20l., Mr. Buxton, 5l., and other gentlemen similar sums, for sustaining the movement. Mr. Morley had offered to defray one-third of the cost of a mission-station in the most destitute portion of the county, and inquiries were being made respecting Kent-street, Southwark. It was proposed that some effort should be made at Battersea, in the newer portion of which a labouring population is fast springing up. Mr. Medwin had nearly erected an excellent chapel and school at

Thornton-heath, Croydon, and had offered to place it in the hands of the Union. Mr. Sharpe, of Ewell, had also taken the initiative in the erection of a chapel in that improving village, and wished for the aid of the Union. In the rural districts the circumstances of various places greatly differed. Some of them were overdone with rival religious agencies, while others were too thinly peopled for village chapels. In West Surrey, which, morally, was in a melancholy condition, it was thought that a well-devised system of colportage would be very useful. It was further insisted upon that special attention should be paid to the rising places in the suburbs of London.

Resolutions touching upon some of the topics of the reports were then submitted. The first, moved by the Rev. D. Nimmo, seconded by Mr. Dixie, and supported by the Rev. G. Rose, agreed to a vote of 50l. towards the first year's income of an efficient minister at the chapel in Rotherhithe. The second, proposed by the Rev. J. Pillans and the Rev. W. Essery, approved of the opening of the Bermondsey Baths. This elicited a protest from the Neckinger-road Church, but the explanations afforded led to a good understanding on the point, and the unanimous adoption of the motion.

A resolution was then proposed by Mr. Buckley, the treasurer, and Mr. Long, requesting that annual collections may be made for the Union, the third Sunday in February. It was urged that the making of the collection, and the obtaining of annual subscriptions, should be regarded as a duty, and suggestions were made to prevent any clashing with other objects.

These matters of business having been disposed of, the Rev. W. P. Dothie, of Redhill, read a vigorous, fresh, and suggestive paper on "The influence of modern suburban life upon our churches." It touched upon a number of important topics, which were commended to the serious attention of the Union by a resolution, proposed by Mr. Carvell Williams and the Rev. R. Davies. An interesting discussion followed on the best mode of overcoming the difficulties with which suburban churches have to contend.

The members of the Union then adjourned to the Rosemary Branch Tavern, where the liberality of the Union's Peckham friends had provided a handsome entertainment. Some interesting speeches were delivered after dinner by Mr. Scott, who had by that time arrived—the Rev. Messrs. Turquand, Betts, Waite, and Mackennal, Mr. Beard, Mr. Allport, and others.

In the evening a public meeting was held in Hanover Chapel, when Mr. Scott presided, and addresses were delivered by the Rev. T. Davies, of Godalming, on "The religious condition of the country"; the Rev. A. Mackennal on "The work of the union"; and the Rev. R. Robinson on "Congregational principles." All the meetings were regarded as very successful.

CONGREGATIONAL PASTORS' INSURANCE AID SOCIETY.

This society, whose object is to assist ministers in paying the annual premiums requisite to insure an annuity for the widow, or an equivalent in one sum for the children when there is no widow, have just put forth an earnest appeal for public support. The particular advantages of the scheme are thus stated:—

1. It encourages the efforts of ministers to help themselves. To pay the whole of the required premium would to many be impossible; but if even half be paid for them, they gladly, though often at much sacrifice, make an effort to supply the remainder, rather than leave those most dear to them entirely dependent on charity. This feeling deserves to be greatly encouraged. Out of fifty-six ministers who have been helped regularly or in some pressing emergency by the committee since the society was formed, not one-third could have commenced an insurance but for such help.
2. It stimulates the people in many instances to increased exertion for their minister. In all cases where there seems any hope of success, the secretary endeavours to originate a special effort among them to raise what may be needed, in addition to the grant of the committee, and thus to relieve the minister altogether. His appeal has, in several cases, been readily responded to; and much more might be done in this way, if the funds of the society were increased.
3. It secures much greater benefit for the widow at a very much lower expenditure of public money. The cases at present adopted by the committee cost the society in grants nearly 130l. per annum. This would only suffice for a 10l. grant to thirteen widows. As expended by this society, with what is paid by the ministers themselves, or by their people for them, it secures for thirty-five widows an average annuity of nearly 28l. each!—thus increasing nearly threefold the number of persons benefited, and the amount of benefit to be realised by each.

The committee describe what has already been done, and what might be accomplished if their means were adequate.

In the year 1861, by one fund, 2,636l. were divided among 255 widows, and by another 901l. among 115 widows; making 3,537l. among 370, and giving an average grant of nearly 9l. 12s. to each. Taking the average age of the insuring minister at thirty-five, his wife three years younger (rather a high average), the Pastors' Insurance Aid Society, even if paying two-thirds of the premium with the same sum, would provide for 530 widows, instead of only 370, and secure for each 40l. per annum instead of 9l. 12s.

Two widows are already in the receipt of annuities—one of 40l. per annum, and the other of 20l. which they could never have had but for the aid given to their deceased husbands by this society. The former, in consequence of the early death of the insurer, only cost the society 15l. The widow has already received 280l., and

will continue to receive 40l. per annum, so long as she remains a widow. This, it is granted, is an extreme case; but still it is *bona fide*, and not one imagined as possible merely. It was the very first that occurred after the society came into operation, and shows, in a most forcible manner, the great value of this mode of operation.

The committee are anxious to see so useful and important an institution realising a measure of support more worthy of the denomination to which it belongs. They appeal for fresh annual subscriptions and for generous donations, and sacramental or other collections to increase their funded capital. They are especially desirous to see this, which is at present under 2,000l., reach 5,000l., because, till this is the case, only three-fourths of the annual income can be expended in grants. They are under engagements to the full extent of their means, and at their last meeting were obliged to refuse three applications out of four, only because they had not the funds necessary for adopting them.

JOHN CHURCHILL, Treasurer.

HENRY BROMLEY, Honorary Secretary.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

The third lecture of the course to the Young Men's Christian Association was delivered on Tuesday evening last week, at Exeter Hall, by the Rev. Alexander Raleigh, of Canonbury Chapel. W. E. Gurney, Esq., presided, and the Rev. William Brook offered prayer. Though the weather was very wet, the audience was larger than on either of the two previous occasions. Mr. Raleigh, in commencing the lecture, said it was only fair to say that the title of the lecture ought to be slightly altered, as the subject would rather be, "Poverty in its Relations with Competence and Wealth." The subject nearly concerned them all, that they might form and keep right views, so as to be able to meet any fortune, and be able to hold up their head and keep on their way through all weathers. But there were other considerations of an unselfish and public kind which he confessed he had chiefly in view, and which ought to draw their attention thus early to the subject of poverty, competence, and wealth. They were young citizens, and as they grew up they would find that many of the great questions which affected the weal of the State, the well-being of the world, and the social and moral progress of the whole race, were linked more or less closely with these three words, or the things which they represented. He had the curiosity to look in the dictionary to see what varieties or shades of meaning there might be given to the word "poor," and he found a long and most melancholy list. There were no less than seventeen meanings given, and only one of them was thoroughly good. Some of the meanings were—wholly destitute of property, barren, mean, trifling, paltry, exhausted, unimportant, unhappy, pitiable, depressed, dejected, spiritless, lean, emaciated, small, restless, ill, uncomfortable. Who would be poor if he could help it in poverty, or health, or character, in mind, body, or estate, or in anything except in spirit in the Scriptural meaning, "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven?" Hard work and constant poverty wore out, as it were, the very germs of taste and beauty, and long disuse corroded and exhausted the very faculty of culture within, the organic power and susceptibility on which all the blossoms and fruit of education would grow. But he must say again that poverty, although not inherently or of necessity, yet as a matter of history and of fact, had a continual pressure and tendency towards immorality. He proceeded to give counsel to the young men before him who had their way to make in the world, and concluded by saying there were pagans in this Christian land who refused to believe in all progress of humanity, and hold that poverty, ignorance, and vice must ever be perpetuated by the side of wealth, knowledge, and virtue—and some professing Christians were sceptical on the matter. But that miserable theory was contradicted by all the world's struggles and achievements, and by the moral sentiments and instincts of mankind, and it was also contradicted and condemned by the teaching of the Book of God. Mr. Raleigh then at some length, and in nervous language, showed how the manifestation of the kingdom of Christ was the grand curative power for all the ills of man—the earthly fountain of living water—God coming down to give rest and plenty to the people. From this conviction sprang the missionary enterprise, and it was the safeguard of all our social reformations. At present it was said that more than a million of our fellow-countrymen lived on charity and alms; and other two millions were always on the verge of this condition. This was a state of things that he did not like, much as he admired the charities of England; and the man was no friend of the nation that did like it. They were its true friends and benefactors who break through all the trammels of party and all the indulgences and prejudices of a social kind in order to take a near and long gaze at the dark realities of English life, all of them associated more or less with poverty. Mr. Raleigh was heartily applauded at the close of his address.

"ESSAYS AND REVIEWS."—It is expected that the judgment in this cause will be very shortly pronounced by the Privy Council; but the tenor of the questions and observations made by the learned lords of the Council does not lead us to anticipate that it is likely to be one which will satisfy either the Church or the public at large.—*Record*.

THE NEW PROFESSOR OF ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY AT OXFORD.—The vacant canonry of Christ Church, with the Professorship of Ecclesiastical History attached, has been conferred on the Rev. W. W. Shirley, M.A., Fellow of Wadham College, the son

of the late Dr. Shirley, Bishop of Sodor and Man. Mr. Shirley obtained a first-class in mathematics at the Michaelmas Examination of 1851. He was appointed a Modern History Examiner in 1861, and a Select Preacher in 1862. He has exerted himself with great energy in the educational movements of late years.

LIBERATION SOCIETY AT HEYWOOD.—The annual meeting of the friends of the society was held in Heywood on Thursday last, when Mr. Kearley attended as a deputation from the Executive Committee. The chair was taken by Mr. W. Hamer, who with the Rev. J. Browne, B.A., of Bamford, Rev. R. Storry, Mr. J. S. Job, Mr. Kearley, and other friends, addressed the meeting. A committee, including representatives of all the Dissenting congregations in the town, was appointed, and several new subscribers added to the list of contributors. The new electoral policy of the society was freely discussed, and met with the cordial approbation of the meeting.

LITURGICAL REVISION.—The Brighton papers report a meeting held in that town last week in connection with the Association for Promoting Liturgical Revision. Viscount Gage presided. The Rev. E. Bligh, rector of Rotherfield, represented the association, and spoke at large on the subject of revision and in advocacy of the society. The Rev. E. Clay, who followed, referred especially to one portion of Mr. Bligh's address relating to the relaxation of the Acts of Uniformity, holding that the revision of the Prayer-book should take place before or simultaneously with a relaxation of these acts. He thought dissension and difficulties would be put an end to, and harmony established, by a careful revision of rubrics and reconciliation of seemingly contradictory passages. Mr. Blencowe, M.P., also addressed the meeting.

THE CLERGY AND THE BURIAL SERVICE.—The Venerable Archdeacon Hone, Archdeacon of Worcester, convened a meeting of the clergy of that archdeaconry at the Chapter-house at Worcester, last Wednesday, on the subject of the Burial Service, some portions of which were objected to by some of the clergy. There was a very full meeting, nearly 200 clergymen being present. The archdeacon presided, and the discussion was lengthy. Reporters were not admitted, and the result only has been allowed to transpire. It seems that the special objections were to the passage, "In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life," uttered by the priest at the time when the earth is thrown upon the coffin, and the prayer before the collect, which some clergymen consider inappropriate in the case of the funeral of persons who were notoriously evil men. The division took place on the question whether there should be any alteration in the Prayer-book, and a very large majority decided that it was not advisable to alter it. The resolution will be communicated to the bishop of the diocese, the archbishop of the province, and the local representatives in Convocation.

THE BISHOP OF DURHAM AND THE NEWCASTLE TOWN COUNCIL.—The Newcastle Town Council met on Wednesday last, and there was a discussion anent the Bishop of Durham's Chancery injunction to restrain the council from interfering with any part or parcel of the consecrated ground of St. John's Churchyard. It appears that a small corner of the churchyard very materially interferes with the line of the proposed new street, and, in virtue of the powers vested in them, the council had arranged with the vicar, who is the real owner of the ground, for the purchase of this ground for 50*l*. The terms of purchase were agreed upon, and all was going on well, when the bishop stepped in and put his veto upon the whole proceeding. The conduct of the bishop in this matter certainly does not appear to great advantage. Ald. Philipson stigmatised it as "a piece of bigotry, prejudice, and superstition," and this denunciation of the right rev. prelate was received with "loud cheers." Indeed, the bishop's refusal on the paltry ground of consecration, or any such superstition, does seem extraordinary in this nineteenth century. The council, notwithstanding the bishop's threats, we are glad to see, will prosecute their improvements, unless prevented by law—a very unlikely contingency.—*Newcastle Guardian*.

THE GREEK CHAIR AT OXFORD.—In reply to "M. A.," in the *Daily News*, apropos of the proposal to augment the salary of Professor Jowett, Canon Stanley says:—"The facts are these: There was no discussion in the council. Neither Dr. Pusey nor Professor Mansel spoke a word. Dr. Jeune, in giving his vote, gave also his reasons, which were these: That though now, as formerly, he thought that the Greek Professor ought to be endowed, he feared that the proposal, in the bare form in which it was brought forward, would meet with failure, and that it was, therefore, useless to excite theological passions, already sufficiently inflamed. He offered, as a proof of his wish to see the chair endowed, a suggestion for considering the question in conjunction with the augmentation of the salaries of certain other chairs. I may add, that I have reason to believe that some settlement of this great grievance may shortly be found, in which I earnestly hope that all parties may concur. No one can feel more strongly than I do the evil done by this long neglect of the most eminent of our professors. But no one will rejoice more sincerely in any solution of the difficulty which will tend to allay the vehemence of party and personal feeling, which on both sides has been engendered by this controversy."

JOHN BUNYAN'S BONES.—A public meeting of some hundreds of working men was held on Tuesday evening in the Lambeth Baths, Westminster-road,

on the rumoured attempt of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners to appropriate Bunhill-fields burial-ground to building purposes. G. Hill, Esq., of the Lambeth vestry, presided, and introduced the business of the meeting by calling upon Mr. G. M. Murphy to deliver a lecture upon the subject. The lecturer traced the history of Bunhill-fields, from the time it became a bone-hill, by the burial there of many who died of the plague in 1665; soon after which it became a Nonconformist burial-ground, and among the buried there lie John Owen, George Fox, John Bunyan, Daniel De Foe, Isaac Watts, John Wesley's mother, Dr. Lardner, and many martyrs of political and ecclesiastical tyranny. Mr. Murphy then traced the proceedings of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, into whose hands this property had fallen, detailing the character of their dealings in the matters with which they had been entrusted, concluding with proposing the following resolution, which was seconded from among the audience, and unanimously carried:—

That this meeting, having learned with surprise that it is in contemplation by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners to remove the remains of the honoured dead from Bunhill-fields, and to let the land for building purposes, cannot but express its utmost indignation at such a sacrilegious project, especially as in that renowned place are the mortal remains of the immortal author of the "Pilgrim's Progress."

THE EDINBURGH ANNUITY-TAX ACT.—How works the act now? The truth is, it does not work at all. It is virtually at this moment dead—in its death, however, like most disinterred bodies, painfully offensive to all sections of the public except those who, like privileged vultures, batten upon the prey. For three years the magistrates have not dared to put the law in execution to its extremities; they have not dared to rouse the goods or imprison the person of a single one out of the 6,000 ratepayers who have refused to break God's commandments that they might keep the Lord Advocate and Adam Black's law. By a disgraceful series of persecutions on the one hand, and an unprincipled system of taxation on the other, they have contrived to give the appearance of life to the act. They have transformed themselves into bushmen, sheltering themselves behind hedges, shooting a man down here and there, afraid to come out manfully and face a determined foe. They take the undignified position of skulking about our city banks and among our city traders to find out where a bank account can be arrested or a trader's debt seized. Shame that our banks should allow themselves to be so prostituted in the name of a municipality or in the more sacred name of religion, and that business men should have to resort to stratagems to defeat the schemes of common informers! They allow their collector to accumulate debts for three years in order that certain privileged lawyers and bailiffs may enjoy a share of the spoil, all the while taxing other citizens to make up the uncollected arrears. There is not a city in the kingdom besides Edinburgh which would suffer such an unjust and unbusiness-like system to exist a single year. More than all this, they have the arrogance to cry out about ratepayers not paying their police-taxes, when these same ratepayers have over and over again offered payment, minus the ministers' money, and when they themselves, having the power to compel payment, year by year, not only do not exercise it, but actually heap on expenses upon the recusants as if these recusants and not themselves were to blame.—*Caledonian Mercury*.

OBJECTIONS TO A PRESENTEE.—Some amusement is being caused by the objections made, under the Aberdeen Act, by the people of Duthul to the Rev. Mr. Robertson, who had received a presentation to the parish from the patron, Lord Seafield. The secedent extended over eight months, and between fifty and sixty witnesses had been examined. The first objection the people made to the presentee was "constitutional and permanent physical weakness." One person saw him enter the church, and his walk was too slow, while his conversation after entering was such as bore ample evidence to his weakness. Another said his eyes were sunk in his head—the proper adjustment of the eyelids, be it remembered, is a matter of moment in the Highlands. Medical evidence was adduced as to the appearance of his nails, his teeth, his gums, and the length of his fingers. And the agent for the objectors stated in his concluding address that the presentee was upwards of six feet high, and the proportion of weight to height was a stone per foot. By-and-bye, Presbyterians will require some standard to test the specific gravity of presentees. The second objection was that "his style of preaching was affected, insipid, unedifying, and unsuitable to the great body of the people." The discussion of a question involving style of preaching in the North would be as hopeless and boundless as is the diversity of opinion regarding it. One witness, with charming frankness, admitted that paper sermons never did him good—there could be no communication between the paper and his heart; and this view may be taken as a good index of that of a numerous class of persons in the North. Paper ministers, as they are popularly termed, would do well to locate themselves south of the Spey and the Bogle, as there can be no spiritual pabulum derived from written sermons in the intellectual regions beyond. The preacher who trusts to the strength of extempore inspiration, whose disconnected sentences and hopelessly confused ideas are linked together by a series of supplementary hums and groans, will best suit northern orthodoxy—the impression left on the people being generally proportionate to that made upon the pulpit. The third objection to the presentee was not so hackneyed as the others, and well illustrates what a *vade mecum* for the supply of objections Lord Aberdeen's Act is. This was the objection—"That his manner towards the

common people was cold, distant, haughty, and domineering."—*Glasgow Post*.

Religious Intelligence.

NORTHAMPTON—NEW COLLEGE-STREET CHAPEL.

The new and stately building erected on the site of the venerable chapel in College-street, Northampton, was opened for Divine service on Thursday, Nov. 26th. The foundation-stone of the building was laid on the 8th of December last year by the Rev. J. T. Brown. It is of the Corinthian order of architecture, and presents a very handsome appearance. The new chapel and schools occupy the site of the former chapel and schools, most of the graveyard, and of some other premises purchased by the committee. The internal area of the chapel is seventy-five feet by fifty-four feet, with galleries extending over a spacious vestibule. There is space sufficient for seating 1,100 persons, and it is admirably furnished with means of ingress and egress; there being six outlets to the ground-floor and four to the galleries. In the rear of the chapel are minister's and baptismal vestries, with committee-room and several class-rooms over, communicating with the gallery of the chapel and the large room for general meetings over the schools. The building towards St. Katherine's consists of an infant school-room, cuisine, large room for Sunday-school, and room over for general meetings, capable of seating 500 persons, communicating with the gallery and class-room as before described.

The opening services brought together a large number of persons from the town and neighbourhood, and at each of the services the chapel was crammed to excess. Many tradesmen closed their shops at four o'clock in the afternoon, thus affording their assistants an opportunity of being at the tea in the Corn Exchange and at the chapel in the evening. The attendance of visitors from the country was very large. Great admiration was expressed at the beauty and comfort of the chapel, which is understood to be without an equal in the county. The devotional parts of the service were conducted by the pastor, the Rev. J. T. Brown, and the Rev. E. T. Prust. The sermon in the morning was preached by the Rev. William Landels, of Regent's-park, London, who took for his text, Galatians vi. 14—"But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world." Mr. Brown, at the close of the sermon, alluded to the assistance they had received from the surrounding villages. The Rev. W. Knowles offered the concluding prayer.

The dinner was provided at the Swan inn, Derngate, and the company, which numbered about 120 persons, consisted of visitors from the neighbourhood. The chair was occupied by Mr. J. Perry, supported on the right by the Rev. William Landels, and on the left by the Rev. J. T. Brown. Most of the ministers of the town and neighbourhood were present. The meeting was addressed by the chairman and the Revs. J. T. Brown, Mr. Landels, J. Mursell, of Kettering, &c. Mr. Landels, after stating that he was glad his sermon had given satisfaction, said the chapel was a marvel of cheapness, as he understood that it would not cost more than 5,000*l*. He did not know any place of worship of the same size, and finished in such a style, that had been built for such a sum. He hoped that Mr. Brown would long proclaim the Gospel in it, that they would derive pleasure and profit from listening to him, and that a worthy list of successors would appear in his place.

The tea was provided at the Corn Exchange, and was partaken of by a large number of persons; in fact, the large hall was filled to excess, and all the visitors could not be accommodated at the same time.

The evening service commenced at six o'clock, but long before that time the chapel was filled to overflowing, and many were unable to obtain admittance. For these a service was held in the large room over the school, and a sermon was kindly preached by the Rev. J. Mursell, of Kettering. The service in the chapel was begun by singing a hymn and devotions, the Rev. T. T. Gough leading the latter. The preacher was the Rev. John Howard Hinton, M.A., who selected for his text Colossians i. 12th verse—"Giving thanks unto the Father, who hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light."

On the following Sunday the pulpit was occupied by the Rev. J. P. Mursell, of Leicester. The morning discourse was founded on John iv. 24—"God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth"; that in the evening on Rev. vii. 15—"Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple." In the afternoon the Rev. J. T. Brown addressed the children belonging to the schools in connection with College-street Chapel, amounting to about 1,200.

A public meeting was held at the chapel on Monday night, and was very numerously attended, so numerously, indeed, that every available seat was occupied. The chair was occupied by the pastor, the Rev. J. T. Brown, who was surrounded by the Rev. J. Mursell, of Leicester; the Rev. T. Arnold, of Doddridge Chapel; the Rev. George Nicholson, of King-street Chapel; the Rev. J. Brown, of Grafton-street Chapel; the Rev. T. Gough, of Clipstone; and Mr. J. Perry, the treasurer, Mr. J. Taylor, &c., &c. In the course of his opening speech the chairman said they had raised some

thousands of pounds, and they might have some two thousand more to raise, and they could raise one thousand pounds next year if they were in the mood. (Applause.) Very much depended upon themselves. The Rev. J. Brown, of Grafton-street, and G. Nicholson, M.A., then spoke. The latter, as well as all the speakers, was profuse in congratulations on the beauty of the building and the zeal of the congregation. They all knew that there was a great deal said about having the right man in the right place. Their pastor had proved himself to be the right man for them by the fact that, during the twenty years he had been their minister, his popularity and power had gone on increasing. (Hear, hear.) That was the case with but few ministers. The Rev. T. Arnold, after some congratulatory remarks, said, as regarded the building, it was exceedingly beautiful and graceful. Perhaps it was not altogether without fault, he knew not what edifice was,—but it appeared to him to be pre-eminently appropriate for the great end for which it was raised. The Gothic style of architecture was not Christian in its origin—it was Mahomedan. Was there not something much more congenial with their Christianity in those light, cheerful, and graceful buildings than there was in that style of architecture which had been clothed with that gloom and mystery which superstition always delighted to bring about her systems? He could not understand what was the reason of having such beautiful edifices as theirs unless it was to build them up as a Christian church into a higher place of Christian activity. He congratulated them exceedingly when he remembered the noble preparations they had made for the education of the young. Mr. Perry, the treasurer, read the following financial statement:—Donations, weekly subscriptions, cards, &c., previous to opening of the chapel, 4,746*l.* 19*s.* 10*d.* Opening services—collections on Thursday, 170*l.* 12*s.* 7*d.*; proceeds of tea-meeting, 80*l.* 4*s.* 1*d.*; collections on Sunday, 56*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.*; collected at school-children's service, Sunday afternoon, 10*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.*; collected at public meeting, 25*l.* 14*s.* 8*d.*; donations, 49*l.* 7*s.* Mr. John Perry, jun., sovereign friends, presented at the public meeting, 216*l.*; total, 5,355*l.* 12*s.* 0*d.*; expended, 3,959*l.* 12*s.* 5*d.*; cash in hand, 1,395*l.* 19*s.* 7*d.* After a few remarks from the Rev. T. T. Gough, the Rev. J. P. Mursell, of Leicester, expressed his delight at the magnificent building in which they were assembled, and at the large sum of money raised in so short a time.

He congratulated them on the harmony and Christian sympathy of feeling, which seemed to him to bind them hand and heart together, in that town as the ministers were in the neighbourhood of Kettering. Mr. Arnold and some of the other speakers, in speaking of the chapel, had alluded to the mighty, yet gentle, power of what they called, and which he wished he could get altered, the voluntary principle, the principle which had wrought all the good, under God, that had been done in this great and advancing empire. (Hear, hear.) He did not know of any institutions that had flourished except according to the measure in which they had been originated by, and imbued with, the voluntary principle. There was a time, about thirty years ago, when the Established Church was awfully asleep, when the Gospel was scarcely or ever heard within its towering and majestic walls; when Mr. Robinson, of Leicester, and Mr. Simeon, of Cambridge, were the only Evangelical clergymen that protested against the awfully dormant and corrupt state of the Church. The voluntary principle then arose, and the Established Church had now caught the contagion, and within that institution the principle was working vast results. Hundreds of thousands had been spent, and pulpits had been filled with men of God, thoroughly furnished unto all good works. Having adopted the voluntary principle, the Church was now doing good as the several sects of Dissenters were. A clergyman said to him the other day that the voluntary principle would beat them hollow. He answered that he only wished it might, and that he should be exceedingly happy to read the funeral service over the coercive principle. (Hear, hear.) Among themselves, as Dissenters, great progress had been made. As Christian churches, they were binding themselves together under the voluntary banner, and they were making most steady and satisfactory progress. In the town in which he lived four large chapels—two Independent, one Wesleyan, and one New Connection Methodist—had been built, and he believed that they were destined to be filled with worshippers. (Hear, hear.) Go where they might the cause was advancing. The other day, at a small village in the neighbourhood in which he lived, a chapel which cost 900*l.* was built, and the congregation had not only built it but paid for it. (Hear, hear.) He rejoiced that the principle was progressing, because of the influence which it exerted, and of the benefit which it would confer. The voluntary principle was spreading, and they had shown to all a bright and beautiful example. As to their future, no person could foretell that; but if their success bore anything of the proportions of the success which had been vouchsafed in the past, it would be very great indeed. (Hear, hear.)

In the course of some subsequent remarks, the chairman said he thought they could rely on 500*l.* additional from various sources, and hoped that the remaining 500*l.* might be raised during the coming year. After votes of thanks, the doxology was sung, and the meeting separated.

PARK-ROAD CHAPEL, PECKHAM.—On Thursday afternoon, Nov. 26th, the interesting ceremony of laying the memorial stone of these schools was performed by Andrew Lusk, Esq., ex-sheriff and newly-elected alderman for the ward of Aldgate, at which were present, the Revs. D. Nimmo, W. Howieson, and T. Cole (the president), J. Smither, Esq., H. Potter, Esq. (superintendent), T. C. Carter, Esq. (secretary of the building fund), and a large assemblage of ladies and gentlemen resident in the locality. The proceedings commenced with a hymn sung by

the children connected with the schools, followed by reading from the Scriptures and by prayer offered up by the Rev. D. Nimmo. Mr. T. Carter then gave a statement of the causes of erecting the schools. They will provide accommodation for 300 children, at an estimated cost of 300*l.* There are in the schools at present 200 scholars. Mr. Alderman Lusk then laid the stone in the usual form, and with an appropriate address. He concluded by expressing a hope that every blessing might attend the institution, and resumed his seat amidst loud cheering. The Rev. W. Howieson then offered up a dedicatory prayer, which was succeeded by a suitable hymn, written for the occasion. Purse containing various amounts having been laid on the stone by the children, and various contributions handed in from the meeting, including 10*l.* 10*s.* from the Alderman and 10*l.* 10*s.* from Mr. Potter, an anthem and hymns were sung, the proceedings concluding with an appropriate closing prayer. After tea, which had been provided in the chapel, a public meeting took place, at which further contributions were obtained in aid of the building fund.

NORLAND CHAPEL, NOTTING-HILL.—The fourth anniversary of the opening of this chapel was celebrated on the 22nd and 24th ult. Sermons were preached on the Lord's day, by the Revs. William Roberts, B.A., and F. Tucker, B.A., and on Tuesday by the Revs. H. Allon, of Islington, and J. Stent, the pastor of the church. The public meeting was held in the afternoon, under the presidency of Henry Wright, Esq., and addresses were delivered by some of the neighbouring ministers. A dinner and tea were provided gratuitously by the congregation, as on four previous occasions, and the attendance throughout the numerous engagements was large and encouraging. In the short report presented to the public meeting, it was stated that the church and all its domestic institutions were in a vigorous condition, that 200*l.* had been paid off the debt during the year, and that the difficulties incident to an undertaking such as this new chapel had been, were well overcome; so that the prospect of increased usefulness in the future was most fair and promising.

CAMBRIDGE-HEATH, HACKNEY.—On Thursday week the Rev. William Marshall was ordained pastor of the Congregational church newly formed at this place. The Rev. T. Binney, Rev. J. H. Wilson (who preached the introductory discourse), Rev. A. Raleigh, Rev. S. McAll, Rev. T. W. Aveling, Rev. Dr. Spence, Rev. J. Hamilton, Rev. I. V. Mummery, took part in the interesting service. A tea-meeting was afterwards held in St. Thomas's-hall, Hackney, when about 700 ladies and gentlemen sat down. In the evening a public meeting was held, presided over by S. Morley, Esq., who expressed his hearty sympathy with Mr. Marshall and his church and congregation. They had a large harvest before them at Cambridge-heath, and he hoped they would use their best endeavours to get a new place of worship. It had now become absolutely necessary, and when they commenced such an operation he would be most happy to co-operate with them in the work. This was a district with which he had been connected all his life, and he was always interested in any object which would promote the well-being of the population. The Rev. J. H. Wilson moved the following resolution:—

That this meeting heartily welcomes the Rev. William Marshall as pastor of Cambridge-heath Congregational church, and offers its cordial co-operation in the use of such means as may by God's blessing promote the evangelisation of this locality.

Mr. Marmaduke Mathews seconded the resolution. He was happy to say that the difficulties which had stood in their way had now been adjusted. Some of the subscribers had requested that their subscriptions might be returned. There was originally about 600*l.*, part of which had been expended at the church; some of the subscribers would not receive back their money; and the money had been divided *pro rata* to about 120*l.*, which would be a nucleus for their new efforts. In the course of a few days the whole affair would be adjusted. He was happy to say that their church was crowded on Sundays, and it was necessary that a new building should be erected. The Rev. W. Marshall, Revs. F. Soden, J. Ross, W. Dorling, and others, then addressed the meeting.

RICHMOND, SURREY.—The Rev. J. B. French has signified his intention of resigning his pastorate of the Congregational church here shortly, and of seeking a sphere of labour in a more bracing climate, which domestic circumstances render necessary.

PUDSEY.—The Rev. T. W. Tozer has resigned his pastorate of the Independent church at Pudsey, having accepted the invitation to become the pastor of an Independent church at Dudley, in Worcestershire, where he intends to enter on his labours on the first Sunday in January next.

WORTHING.—A largely attended tea-meeting took place on Monday evening, Nov. 30, at the Christian Literary Institution, Worthing. It was held for the purpose of welcoming the new pastor (Rev. B. Price, late of London) to the Independent denomination in Worthing, and also to bid a more cordial farewell to the old one (Rev. W. Bean, of Worthing). After tea a public meeting was held, at which the Rev. B. Price presided. He was supported on either side by the Rev. Mr. Figgis, of Brighton; the Rev. James Hill, also of Brighton; Rev. W. Bean, Rev. Mr. Davey, of Arundel, and Rev. R. Peart, of Worthing. Several addresses having been made, the chairman referred to the hearty co-operation and disinterestedness of Mr. Bean, and of the affection and esteem of the people towards their late pastor. In their name he presented Mr. Bean with a silver inkstand, in token of their high regard during his ministration among them, and to Miss Bean, who had so long presided at the organ, a handsome ebony dressing-

case, as a slight memento of the affection and high esteem in which she is held by the friends in Worthing. (Loud cheers.) Mr. Bean, who was greeted with much applause, briefly acknowledged the presentation, alluded to his nine years' ministration among them, and concluded by expressing his best wishes for their new pastor.

PROPOSED WEEK OF SPECIAL PRAYER, JANUARY 3—10, 1864.—The Evangelical Alliance have again invited Christians throughout the world to set apart the first week in January for special and united prayer, in accordance with the plan adopted during four preceding years. The following topics are suggested as suitable for a prominent place in the exhortations and intercessions of the successive days:—

Sunday, January 3.—Sermons: Subject—The work of the Holy Spirit and our Lord's words on agreement in prayer.

Monday, January 4.—Penitential confession of sin, and the acknowledgment of personal, social, and national blessings, with supplication for Divine mercy through the atonement of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Tuesday, January 5.—For the conversion of the ungodly; for the success of missions among Jews and Gentiles; and for a Divine blessing to accompany the efforts made to evangelise the unconverted of all ranks and classes around us.

Wednesday, January 6.—For the Christian church and ministry: for Sunday-schools and all other Christian agencies, and for the increase of spiritual life, activity, and holiness in all believers.

Thursday, January 7.—For the afflicted and oppressed: that slavery may be abolished—that persecution may cease, and that Christian love may expand to the comfort and relief of the destitute in all lands.

Friday, January 8.—For nations: for kings, and all who are in authority—for the cessation of war—for the prevalence of peace, and for the holy observance of the Sabbath.

Saturday, January 9.—Generally for the large outpouring of the Holy Spirit and the revival and extension of pure Christianity throughout the world.

Sunday, January 10.—Sermons: Subject—The Christian church: its unity, and the duty and desirableness of manifesting it.

HALESWORTH.—On Wednesday evening, Nov. 18th, a tea-meeting took place in the Rifle Hall, Halesworth, for the purpose of presenting a testimonial to the Rev. D. T. Carson, for ten years minister of the Congregational chapel in this town, the pastorate of which church, on account of ill-health, he had just relinquished. The tables were tastefully decorated with vases of flowers. More than 400 persons sat down to an excellent and substantial repast. After tea, the Rev. E. Jones, of Ipswich, who presided as chairman, introduced the business of the evening. Mr. J. B. Harvey, one of the deacons, presented Mr. Carson with a handsome silver salver, and Mrs. Carson with an epergne. The salver bore the following inscription:—"Presented, with a purse of gold, to the Rev. D. T. Carson, by the church and congregation worshipping in the Independent chapel, Halesworth, Suffolk, November, 1863, as a small token of their high esteem of him personally, and in grateful remembrance of his faithful and earnest ministry of nearly ten years among them." The delivery of this address, and the presentation, were loudly cheered. The Rev. D. T. Carson, in acknowledging the presentation, said that he had laboured forty-nine years in the ministry, and he retired from his post with feelings of regard for every member of the church. He felt this in regard to his people, that they were in unity and peace, his only reason for leaving being that he did not think it right to occupy a position the duties of which he was unable to discharge; and he prayed they might get a minister with far more physical and mental energy than he possessed. The meeting was subsequently addressed by the Revs. J. Flower, of Beccles; W. Hopkins, R. Lewis, of Lowestoft, and other gentlemen.

BOOTH, NEAR HALIFAX.—On Tuesday, the 24th of November, a handsome present of three hundred guineas was made to the Rev. D. Jones, the well-known and respected pastor of the church and congregation at Booth, near Halifax, on the completion of his twenty-one years' pastorate there. All the ministers of the district were invited to add interest to the presentation by their presence. They cordially united, with an exception or two arising from personal illness. A very substantial tea was served at half-past five o'clock, and round after round sat down in the appropriately-decorated and spacious school-room. Afterwards the numerous company met in the chapel, which was filled in every part, and great numbers were unable to gain admission. James Aked, Esq., of Kershaw House, was called to the chair. After prayer by the Rev. W. Howgill, M.A., of Darley, the presentation was made by William Calvert, Esq., one of the deacons at Booth, who read a prepared address, printed and written, along with the donors' names, in a chaste and costly fashion. Mr. Jones acknowledged, in very suitable terms, this token of his people's approval of his ministerial and pastoral services. The Rev. James Pridie, of Halifax; the Rev. A. Blackburn, of Eastwood; the Rev. J. Gregory, of Thornton; the Rev. R. Harley, F.R.A.S., of Brighouse; the Rev. W. Roberts, of the Square Church; the Rev. J. Moffett, of Sowerby Bridge, were the speakers: and they uttered many warm and genial sentiments, with some spirit-stirring thoughts. All bore a united and a cordial testimony to the many excellencies of their bachelor brother, the Bishop of Booth, and acknowledged that his high moral bearing, his Catholic spirit, his large-hearted action, had gained for him a goodly measure of influence in the wide and populous district of Halifax. It was a meeting long to be remembered.

Correspondence.

"THE PARTY OF ORDER."

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—It seems a very ungracious thing to criticise a funeral sermon. To do so must be distasteful to every man of correct judgment and good feeling, and that in an especial manner when the subject of the sermon is a man who was held in universal respect while he lived and mourned by all when he was taken away. Still more is the work a task, and one to which we cannot take kindly, when the preacher of the discourse to be criticised is related by the double tie of blood and Christian affection to the departed servant of God concerning whom he speaks. Yet, with your consent, I wish to do this apparently ungracious thing, and that, too, in a case wherein all these circumstances of aggravation are found.

The other day I procured a copy of the Sketch of the late Dr. Raffles, of Liverpool, recently published by the Rev. J. Baldwin Brown, B.A., with the view of placing it in a library for young folks in which I take an interest. An unfeigned respect for both the subject and the author of the little book led to its selection. Guess my surprise when, on a perusal of the discourse, I found that it contained a most elaborate assault upon myself!

For I happen, Sir, to be a "political Dissenter"; and in weaving a chaplet to lay upon the tomb of the departed, Mr. Brown has deemed it right and necessary to exalt the character of his revered relative at the expense of his contemporaries who bear that much-abused, because much-misunderstood, name. Says Mr. Brown:—

There are two kinds of Nonconformists. Indeed, in all great communities which have to carry on a struggle, two parties are sure to develop themselves. You may see them clearly in Italy now. There is what is called the party of order, and the party of action—the party of order combining the great mass of the quiet, steady, practical, and catholic supporters of the movement. By this I mean the men who are able to take a broad and moderate view of affairs; who accept thankfully very partial realisations of ideal principles, and make what is found possible, with the manifold diversities and infirmities of men, even though it very imperfectly contents them, their firm standing-ground, in advancing to higher things. They have no notion that an ideal state can be realised in a world like this; and, perhaps, have somewhere latent a very decided conviction that the ideal of any man or party, however high and pure, would be a very narrow circle for the enclosure of a world. They are not eager to commit themselves to extreme statements or extreme measures, and occupy themselves rather with the effort to make what they have won of truth and right tell practically on the promotion of the welfare and progress of mankind. Then there is always the party of action:—the eager, high-minded, enthusiastic spirits, aiming at impracticable ideals, and conceiving it their mission to set themselves "anti" everything which opposes its solid weight as an obstacle to the realisation of their dreams. They are strong in the advocacy of abstract principles; they dream that society can be saved by propositions; they denounce errors with unrelenting vehemence, and assert their private and partial truths as though they were continent of "the all." They regard with a touch of contempt the moderate souls, who, on really the same basis, are working solidly, but quietly, for the welfare of mankind. They are great in organisation and strenuous in action; but their action has mostly an unhappy consequence: it ever parades the whole force of their antagonists to resist it, and rarely fails to throw back by many stages the substantial progress of the cause whose interests they have at heart. We have the two parties among us as Nonconformists. Dr. Raffles belonged very decidedly to the first of these parties; and he, and men like him, would be reckoned as but lukewarm and slack-handed Dissenters by the zealots of the last. . . . Being myself an humble member of the same party of order among us, with very decided convictions as to the obstacles which the advanced party is always throwing in the way of the progress of its truth, I take leave to say some words to explain, as far as I can, his position, and to justify his course. . . . He was in no sense a political Dissenter. It may be a sad confession of lukewarmness in the eyes of some; but, as I am in the same condition, I make it without shame; and, as I was so closely connected with him, even with a touch of pride.

With more than a "touch" of pride? I think that term is scarcely strong enough to represent the self-complacency of this "humble member of the party of order among us."

The party of order! There is a good deal of cool assumption in that self-bestowed name, lifted from the Italian soil by this ecclesiastical Cavour of Clapham, and appropriated to home uses. Even if Mr. Brown were not at pains to tell us, we all know the characteristics of the men to whom the party of order is opposed. They are narrow-minded, one-idea'd men, rash and pig-headed, with no power of forecasting events, using unconstitutional means to achieve their purposes, as impatient as children, incapable of sympathising with antagonistic convictions as honest as their own; and hence, with all their accumulated weaknesses, they really hinder the work which it is their intention to advance. Such is the flattering picture of the political Nonconformists of England drawn by Mr. Brown, "humble member of the party of order." The painter of the portrait is, of course, the very reverse of all this. He is "wide-minded"—a thoroughly "catholic" man. He is of a forbearing and sympathetic spirit. He looks a long way into the future, and is content calmly to wait. In short, he is a prudent and gentlemanly Dissenter. "Our Edwin is no vulgar boy," albeit I think we may detect in him more than the admitted "touch" of pride.

There cannot be a party of order until such a distinction has been justified by the disorderly proceedings of other men. To gain their good ends the party of action in Italy used the bad weapons of the enemy, and of course they failed. In the dark, detestable work of secret conspiracy and assassination they were not a match for their well-trained oppressors, who had been for long centuries under tuition in the school of murder and intrigue. It was on account of this weakness of the extreme patriots that the word "action" became synonymous with disorder; and accordingly the party of Cavour came to be distinguished as the party of "order." But the more accurate definition would have been the party of *orderly action*. For they did not sink by any means into a guilty inactivity. They organised their agricultural societies, in which politics were more thought of than the cultivation of beetroot; they started their journals; by every constitutional means, and with an indefatigable persistency that knew no weariness, they worked at the one thing, with what result the world knows. Now, Sir, if there is a party in England at this moment which in its position and character bears a likeness to that party of order which won back so much of her lost inheritance for poor Italy, I contend

that it is the party known as the political Dissenters, for they are a party of action and a party of order too. In no instance whatever have they been found violating the law of the land. Every constitutional means to advance their cause has been faithfully employed by them. In the vestry, on the hustings, in the press, and in Parliament, they have availed themselves of every legitimate opportunity of asserting their principles and making their wishes known. Entrusted with certain functions as vestrymen and electors, or as members of that Legislature to which the Established Church is subject, they have sought to perform those functions in a conscientious manner. Their most vehement action has been subordinated to the strictest order. Seeing what they believed to be a great public wrong, and furthermore beholding that wrong perpetuated in their name, they have refused to bear any part of the responsibility of its commission by opposing it on every fitting occasion with all their strength. They might have led a more easy, and in one sense a more reputable, life by shirking the disagreeable duty; but, like a certain political Dissenter who once set out against the advice of many on a journey to the city of Worms, they could do no other. And for thus fulfilling their stewardship, even as Cavour and his friends in a lower sphere laboriously fulfilled theirs, Mr. Baldwin Brown turns upon the political Dissenter and applies to them, in its offensive sense, the title of the party of action, while he arrogates to himself and the men who love a slavish ease more than strenuous liberty the name of the party of order!

Mr. Brown charges us with childish impatience. The party to which he is proud to belong "accept thankfully very partial realisations of ideal principles"; and it follows, by implication, that we do not. Surely no allegation farther from the truth could be made against us. Where is there a party, I would ask, that has shown itself more thankful for "small mercies" than the one which is gathered under the banners of political Dissent? Their history, has it not been one of patient waiting as well as of untiring toil? Well do they know that they are playing a "long game." If they were not sustained by the patience of hope, they would long ago have given up the contest. Has Mr. Brown forgot his old friend, the unwearied Burnet, who in this, as in an infinitely higher concern, not only lived and worked but "died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off"? And will he venture to deny that John Burnet was not more surely an ornament than he was a type of the party to which he belonged?

But Mr. Brown claims for himself and his friends not only the exclusive possession of a calm spirit of patience, but also the unshared merit of using well the vantage-ground which they have got. They "occupy themselves with the effort to make what they have won (?) of truth and right tell practically on the promotion of the welfare and progress of mankind." It is implied that our occupation is different. They have learned both "to labour and to wait"; we neither work nor wait. Harsher censure than this cannot be administered. To refute the charge, I am content to point to the lives of the men against whom it is levelled. Enter any of our communities, rural or urban, great or small, and who are the men whom you will find foremost in preaching the Gospel and by other means gathering the outcast and perishing into the fold of Christ? I unhesitatingly answer that, as a rule, they are political Dissenters. There, as in the other and lower field, they are pre-eminently the party of action. The faithful discharge of our duty invariably furnishes motives impelling to other duties. This principle is seen at work among political Dissenters. Withdraw them from the field of evangelistic effort, and the day which witnessed their withdrawal would be a black day for "the welfare and progress" of England. With all due respect to the energy which it may enclose within its borders, I am of opinion that the party of order might be better spared.

Then we are narrow in our notions and bitter in our spirit. We "assert" our "private and partial truths as though they were continent of 'the all.'" The expression of their opinions given in the Bicentenary year through the various media employed by the political Dissenters will suffice to show the temerity of this assertion. The liberality of tone and the genial breadth of view which marked the testimonies then delivered, whether from the pulpit, the platform, or the press, struck every impartial observer, and must impart to the literary monuments of that memorable year a perennial power. Nor was that expression opposed in any way to the general current of our speaking and writing. A bitter and narrow spirit has been ascribed (and the author of "The Divine Life in Man" is the last person who should need to be reminded of the fact) to the literary organs of the party of order; but it is scarcely necessary in the columns of the *Nonconformist* to assert that, taking our literary organs as indicative of our views, the last charge that can be fairly brought against us is that of narrowness. The battle which we wage is directed against the domination of "private and partial truths." It is for the fair and free expression of all opinions that we are contending.

Mr. Brown's strictures are not exhausted yet; for he tells us that our action "has mostly an unhappy consequence, it even parades the whole force of our antagonists to resist it." Yes, in one sense this is an "unhappy" consequence, without doubt. But it seems to be the inevitable consequence of all faithful service. The "righteous Abel" felt it, and from the day of the first martyr for religion down to our own the "whole force" of the Evil One has been "paraded" against the truth. The world witnessed that "unhappy consequence" on Calvary; and he who died there told his servants that they were to look for the same reward as their Master. We may estimate our faithfulness, then, by the force with which the antagonist parades his power. The saddest thing of all is when he lies quiet and at ease on account of our feeble testimony. The most hopeful moment is when we have aroused "the whole force" of the enemy; for then we are assured that he feels his danger, and we know that though he may erect the cross it is the lie and not the truth which shall be crucified. Thus are we cheered by the belief that the very thing which seems most to restrain will most surely advance the work. Never during the present century, perhaps, were the forces of the State-Church drawn out against us in such formidable array as they are at this moment; and never were the party of action animated by higher hopes or cheered by brighter prospects. In the "parade" of all his

forces by the enemy, we see the step that must precede our victory. The darkest hour of all the night is that which comes just before the dawn, and we who wait for the morning are inspired with hope and joy.

Let me, in conclusion, assure Mr. Brown that we who live in rural communities over which the Establishment seeks to ride rough-shod, have experiences of which the city Nonconformist knows nothing. We know the cost of being political Dissenters. We also know how some Dissenters contrive to escape the penalty which testifying to the unpopular truth always brings. Daily the truth is burnt into our souls that the witness is a martyr. But, leaving the results with God, we seek simply to do our duty. When the constitutional opportunity presents itself, we speak and act. Alone, it may be—left by lukewarm and fearful members of our own party—we go up to the vestry of which we are members and there protest against compulsory exactions being made in the name of Christ. For this, it may be, we are ostracised by genteel society and have our means of living curtailed. For this we are stigmatised as political Dissenters, and hear our neighbours who know the truth but will not endanger their status or their bit of bread by witnessing for it complimented at our expense as "the religious Dissenters." I am grieved to think that we should not have the sympathy of one whom I have been in the habit of respecting so sincerely as Mr. Brown. But "our rejoicing is this, the testimony of a good conscience." Not that our work has been all that it should have been, and might have been. Our spirit has not always been as tender and as loving as it ought to have been. Our position and work in such communities have their peculiar temptations, and they are fitted to strengthen morbid humours. Our words, in spite of the strictest self-scrutiny and watchfulness, may not always have been the wisest and the best. But, whatever our shortcomings as Nonconformists, either in the inner or the outer life, of one thing we stand altogether clear—of a time-serving silence when it was our duty to speak, or a guilty connivance in the falsehood which we believe to be dishonouring to God and destructive to the souls of men. No unwilling tribute for the support of Christ's cause is levied in our name; we have publicly thrown all the responsibility upon others. We do not suffer the thought to be entertained by any one that we can acquiesce in that national ritual which Parliament has authorised, and which Parliament has the power to revoke—a ritual which, in my own parish, has assured the drunkard and even the suicide of the same blessed life hereafter which is promised to the holiest saint of God. We have let the "clergy" know that we cannot reconcile subscription to a creed which they oppose in their preaching with common honesty. At the gate of the parish burial-ground, over the coffin containing the body of a saint denied Christian burial because she had not been "baptized," we have denounced the iniquity. We have resisted, we hope at all times with Christian gentleness and courtesy, the arrogant claims of priestly assumption. And we have washed our hands of the guilt contracted by those Nonconformists who know the truth and yet, so far as the unenlightened clergy and members of the Establishment are concerned, keep it to themselves. And though we do not labour for a present reward, yet even this is being granted. How many grateful hearts have been touched by the words of that manly spirit, the Rev. Christopher Neville—a man whose solitary secession from the Established ministry strikes me as being in one point of view a grander thing morally than that disruption of hundreds, at the sight of which in the streets of Edinburgh even Francis Jeffrey wept. I commend the testimony of Mr. Neville to the attention of Mr. Brown. He will then learn at what value one newly delivered from bondage estimates those "religious" Dissenters who form the "party of order." Perhaps Mr. Brown will be startled to find that which he prides himself upon stamped by such a man as Mr. Neville with the name of "sin." His surprise may grow into a salutary uneasiness when he examines the grounds on which Mr. Neville rests that solemn charge. In the hope that such may be the case,

I am, yours respectfully,

Ramsey, Hunts, Nov. 26. ANGLO-SCOTUS.

SUNDAY CLOSING OF PUBLIC-HOUSES.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Having analysed the petitions to Parliament "for" and "against" Mr. Somes's Bill, and the work having been kindly tested by the Rev. Dawson Burns, I beg leave to forward the results for insertion in your paper:—

For closing Public-houses on Sundays.

| | Petitions. | Signatures. |
|--|------------|-------------|
| From inhabitants of cities, towns, and parishes | 1,970 | 573,824 |
| Town meetings | 20 | 542 |
| Other public meetings | 117 | 2,411 |
| Religious congregations and societies | 2,333 | 242,921 |
| Sunday and ragged-school teachers and elder scholars | 475 | 28,605 |
| Temperance societies and Bands of Hope | 168 | 16,807 |
| Females only | 110 | 19,427 |
| Working men and women | 80 | 17,076 |
| Licensed victuallers and beer-sellers | 94 | 1,772 |
| Boards of guardians and justices of the peace | 16 | 52 |
| Waiters at hotels, &c. | 2 | 552 |
| Town councils | 8 | 8 |
| Total | 5,393 | 903,987 |

Against.

| | Petitions. | Signatures. |
|--|------------|-------------|
| From operatives, tradesmen, and others | 70 | 173,850 |
| Licensed victuallers | 44 | 7,851 |
| Inhabitants | 27 | 33,985 |
| Benefit societies | 87 | 328 |
| Town meetings | 2 | 2 |
| Beer-sellers' public meeting | 1 | 1 |
| Total | 231 | 216,017 |

The above shows how great was the error of Captain Jervis when he told the House of Commons that, "considering the petitions are from women and children, the number of signatures bears but a small proportion to the number of Sunday-schools."

The General Conference for Sunday Closing will meet

at the Station Hotel, Derby, on the 10th of December next, at twelve o'clock.

Yours, &c.,
EDWARD MATHEWS.

London, Nov. 28, 1863.

THE BISHOP OF ST. DAVID'S AND DISSENT.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—At a public meeting lately held at Carmarthen, in connection with the restoration of St. David's Cathedral, the lord bishop of the diocese, who occupied the chair, is reported to have made the extraordinary statement that the said cathedral was "the only place of worship for a large and extensive parish."

Now, Sir, although you have lately told us "that a dignitary of the Church is not presumed to recognise the existence of Dissent," I do not think that the above statement should go unchallenged. Being well acquainted with the said neighbourhood, and knowing that Dissent is strong amongst the people, it struck me, on reading his lordship's speech, that he might at least add one word to make it clear that he confined himself strictly to the Church of England, and that he meant to say that the cathedral was the only place of worship which that Church had in the parish.

From his lordship's speech it may be thought by strangers that there is not a single Dissenter, or at least a dissenting place of worship, in the whole neighbourhood. The fact, however, is that in the city and parish of St. David's there are nine dissenting chapels and four dissenting ministers, besides several other ministers from the neighbouring parishes who supply some of the pulpits every Sabbath.

Reflection upon this prelatial precision of speech is quite unnecessary. The Bishop, however, may be excused for his ignorance of the state of his cathedral parish, as he only visits it once in three years.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
CYMRO.

Pembrokeshire, Nov. 27, 1863.

A UNIVERSITY FOR WALES.

A short time since a circular was addressed by Mr. Morgan Lloyd, barrister-at-law, London; Mr. G. Osborne Morgan, M.A., barrister-at-law, late Fellow of University College, Oxford; Thomas Nicholas, M.A., Ph.D. (G8tt.), Carmarthen; and Mr. Hugh Owen, Whitehall, London, to some of the leading friends of education in Wales, inviting them to allow their names to be placed on a provisional committee to be formed for the purpose of taking steps for the establishment of colleges and a university for Wales, on the plan of the Queen's Colleges and University in Ireland. The first meeting of the provisional committee was held yesterday week at the Freemasons' Tavern, London, Wm. Williams, Esq., M.P., presiding. The meeting was attended by a number of influential gentlemen who take a warm interest in the welfare of the principality, and the discussion of the subject of a university for Wales was characterised by a high appreciation of its importance. The following resolutions among others were unanimously adopted:—

1. That considering that the principality of Wales, which contains about a million and a quarter inhabitants, is the only portion of the United Kingdom destitute of high-class academic institutions, Ireland possessing the University of Dublin and the Queen's University and Colleges, and Scotland possessing four great universities; considering moreover that the commercial, manufacturing, and mining operations of the country are rapidly expanding, presenting new facilities, and creating new demands for educated talent; and that while common schools for the labouring classes are daily multiplying, no adequate efforts are made to provide for the pressing claims of the middle and upper classes; it is desirable to seek the immediate establishment of a university, whose course of education shall be comprehensive and complete, and whose degrees and distinctions shall be of standard value among educated men.

2. That a university for Wales should be a truly national institution, located in the country, presenting accessible means of liberal culture at a moderate cost, and commanding by reason of its national character the fullest confidence of the people; that in order to confer as a national institution an impartial benefit upon all, it should maintain the completest freedom from all ecclesiastical preferences, and, while holding the Holy Scriptures as the ultimate authority in all religious matters, leave all teaching properly theological to the religious instructors of the different Churches, and aim in its own department of labour at uniting all ranks of the community in the work of promoting the mental culture and development of the nation.

3. That, with a view of securing from the Government the aid required for so great an undertaking, it is desirable that the people of Wales should themselves show an adequate interest in the question, and should form a national fund to meet in part the necessary outlay.

4. That the following gentlemen be appointed as an executive committee, with power to add to their number, who will immediately undertake to make all necessary arrangements for the further prosecution of this great national object. [Here follow the names.]

Resolutions were also adopted gratefully recognising the munificent contribution of 1,000*l.* by the chairman towards carrying out the object, and appointing him to be the treasurer of the fund to be raised.

THE COTTON CROP IN JAMAICA.

The monthly report on the cotton-farms of the Jamaica Cotton Company—Muirton, Windsor Castle, Orange-hill, and Elmwood—for the month of October, states that there had been heavy rains during the previous month, and that the ground was thoroughly saturated. Fair weather was desired for the cotton. A few of the pieces had a somewhat rusty appearance, and the leaves were dropping. Generally speaking, however, the young supplies had grown well, but they also required sunny weather. The rats were very troublesome. Most of the pieces were showing symptoms of blossoming, and some of the trees had formed bolls. On one piece in particular, called Wilson Piece, where they had about three and a half to four acres of Sea Island cotton (on the hilly part), the trees were loaded with fine bolls, and with some hot sunny weather it was expected that this piece would yield some fine cotton. December was

expected to be trying to the cotton from the prevalence of the north winds. The general appearance of the cotton-fields at Muirton was decidedly promising. Much, however, would depend on the weather during the following six or eight weeks and during picking season. The most critical time for cotton it had been found was when the boll was ready to open; if rain fell then continually, it never opened, but rotted away. If, however, once fully opened, rain, even for days together, did not affect the cotton much. Orange-hill promised well for a crop. They had fifty acres established, and ten more were being planted. Their Sea Island seed was exhausted, and more was wanted. The last ten acres at Orange-hill, and some fifty or sixty at Muirton, were planted with the Peruvian, and it had all come up nicely. The manager had obtained about a quart of Cuban (vine) cotton-seed, and planted it at Orange-hill. This seed was not to be had in quantity, and he received this as a favour from the Kingston Cotton Company. Mr. Crawford, the British consul at Havannah, had written to Mr. Harrison that he had been unable to procure a supply of vine seed for the Rev. A. Bourne, but that he hoped to do so next month. The cotton-fields at Elmwood looked very well. The still, &c., at Elmwood had been taken out and cut up, and was awaiting shipment to England. The gin-house had been closed in and was being floored. Two or three more gins were to be erected at Elmwood as soon as the engineer had finished at Muirton. If they had fair weather, the manager had no doubt they would pick some cotton before the end of the month.

HEAVY GALES.

Furious gales of wind, of which Admiral Fitzroy gave due warning, swept over the country on Wednesday night last and Thursday. It is stated that the gale on Thursday was the heaviest which has been felt since the erection of the anemometer. The pressure on the foot was an inch and a half greater than during the memorable gale when the Royal Charter was lost. In various parts of London chimney stacks were toppled over, and in gardens and nurseries much damage was done. On the river several vessels were driven into collision one with the other, and even wrecked. At Birmingham a large chimney was blown down, and falling on a manufactory, killed a poor girl and injured four others. Throughout the midland counties immense damage was done. At Manchester and neighbourhood on Thursday much injury was done to property. In Upper Medlock-street, a Welsh chapel in course of erection was blown down. Over Liverpool the gale blew with equal fierceness; but the injuries were almost confined to shipping or house property. Several persons were hurt, but their wounds were not serious. On the Mersey the damage done was very large. In Chester the principal damage occasioned by the gale was the destruction of a Roman Catholic chapel then in course of erection. The iron roof of a ship-yard was blown across the lines of the Chester and Holyhead Railroad. At Southport great injury was done, and many narrow escapes are reported. The lifeboat Jessie Knowles did great service. At Ashton, Hyde, Dukinfield, and the neighbourhood, the roofs of the houses were the greatest sufferers. At Lincoln, a house was completely blown down, and a wooden bridge was as completely destroyed, several river boats and small vessels were sunk, and many providential escapes are noted. At Hull, while the storm was at its height, on Thursday, a fire broke out on the premises of a ship-chandler, Humber Dock Walls, and destroyed property valued at 1,000*l.* In Wolverhampton a man was killed and a woman injured by falling chimneys, and the roofs in the "black country" generally have paid a penalty to the wind. In Nottingham the casualties, both to persons and property, were more than usually numerous, a chapel and a house, among other injuries, being reported to be complete ruins. At Wigan three chimneys were blown down, and damage was done besides to a considerable extent, but without personal injury. At St. Helen's a large piece was blown out of the side of the chimney of the Patent Alkali Company. The chimney is said to be one of the largest in England.

The disasters at sea were unhappily numerous. Three vessels were driven ashore on the West Hoyle-bank, near Liverpool, and went to pieces. Only one man out of the several crews was saved. It is calculated that 150 vessels were at anchor in Holyhead harbour and roadstead. Some of those in the harbour were blown from their moorings upon the rocks, and, had the sea run high, every vessel driven ashore would have been wrecked; but the shipping in the harbour suffered more from the wind than the waves. The first report of the disasters in this neighbourhood was happily exaggerated. The number of dead bodies found up to Saturday evening was only seven; and the number of vessels ashore was sixteen, of which three were total wrecks, the others being more or less damaged. The life-boat was the means of saving no less than forty-eight poor creatures from inevitable death off this port. Captain Priest, R.N., reports:—

I never remember such a fearful storm in this locality. The captain of one of the wrecked vessels saw the life-boat running down towards him in the early part of the day, and in the midst of his own distress was magnanimous enough to utter a hope that she would not come to them, because, to use his own words, "she would have been tumbled over and over like a cork." I believe that would have been the fate of any floating thing in that fearful hurricane.

In the Irish Channel numerous shipwrecks occurred, and were in several instances attended with

loss of life. At Bude Haven, on the Cornish coast, a ship was wrecked about ten miles out. The terrible force of the sea on the coast rendered it absolutely impossible for any lifeboat to contend with it. In vain did the noble lifeboat attempt to surmount the fearful breakers, and after an arduous and perilous pull it was compelled to return to the shore. Two of her crew were swept out by a tremendous sea; but having their life-belts on they soon regained the boat. All the crew of the wrecked vessel were saved. A large brig is supposed to have been lost off Aberystwith, and the lifeboat went out. There was a wreck off St. Ives, but the crew reached the shore. Many vessels left the Tyne on Tuesday and Wednesday, regardless of all warnings, in the very face of the approaching gale. The lifeboat rescued many lives in the vicinity of the Goodwin Sands. Reports of effective lifeboat services have also been received from Barton Abbey (Norfolk), Southport, Skerries (Dublin), Carnarvon, Portmadoc, Penarth, Lytham, and other places. At Waterford, as the steamer Beta was coming in, she ran down the pilot cutter Gauntlet, which sank between Creden Head and the bar. No lives lost.

In France the storm seems to have been as destructive, if not more so, than in England. The most distressing result of the storm took place at Cherbourg. In the morning of Wednesday the Argus, a merchant vessel belonging to Granville, went on shore on the north-westerly point of the Ile Pelée. On hearing of the accident the commandant of the ironclad frigate Couronne sent a boat with eighteen men under the command of Lieutenant de Desplas, to the assistance of the stranded vessel, and after some hours' strenuous exertions they succeeded in getting her off. Unfortunately, in towing her away, the ropes broke and the boat was swamped, and all on board, with the exception of two men who were left on the vessel in tow, perished.

The Wilhelmsborg, a German emigrant ship, with nearly 400 passengers, left Hamburg in the early part of last week for Australia. On getting out of the Elbe, and before she could make on offing, the gale burst upon her, driving her upon the Terschelling sand-bank. Here, it is reported, she soon went to pieces only forty-four persons out of the whole number on board being rescued.

THE BURNING OF KAGOSIMA.

The Peace Society have presented to the Queen, by the Home Secretary, a memorial on the dreadful character of the late operations in Japan, and particularly the burning of Kagosima, containing from 150,000 to 180,000 inhabitants. After presenting the facts, too well known to our readers, the memorialists say:—

The committee respectfully submit to your Majesty that this tremendous act of vengeance, inflicted by British arms, cannot be justified on any ground, they will not say of justice and humanity, but of international law, or even of the laws of war. However heinous may have been the criminality of those concerned in the act for which redress was sought, the people of Kagosima, situated at a considerable distance from the scene of the outrage, were in no respect implicated in the guilt. Your Majesty's memorialists are profoundly convinced that acts like these, unhappily of too frequent occurrence in those remote regions, are inflicting a deep and lasting injury on the character of this country. Far from helping, they create an insurmountable barrier in the way of our progress as the professed apostles of civilisation and Christianity in the East. They afford matter of just reproach against us to other nations, and take from us the power of remonstrance or rebuke with them, whatever acts of injustice or oppression they may commit. They dishonour our Christian profession before the face of the world; and may we not justly apprehend that they may expose us to the righteous displeasure of Him by whose signal favour our country has been raised to such unexampled power and prosperity? The committee of the Peace Society, therefore, most humbly, but most earnestly, entreat your Majesty to withhold your Royal sanction from this great outrage, perpetrated, in your Majesty's name, on the unoffending people of Kagosima! And your Majesty's memorialists, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

JOSEPH PEASE, President.
SAMUEL GURNEY, Treasurer.
HENRY RICHARD, Secretary.

THE BELGIAN FREE-TRADERS.

The following letter has been received by the Financial Reform Association:—

Antwerp, Oct. 28.
My dear Sir,—I have received your note of the 21st current, and I hasten to answer it. You may certainly calculate on my subscription of 1*l.* to the Financial Reform Association, and in addition, I request you to put me down for 5*l.* to the lecture fund.

I should consider myself wanting to one of my first duties if I did not support—modestly, it is true, but within the limit of my means—an association the labours of which are destined to assure for England one of the greatest movements of modern times.

I see with regret, sir, the extreme difficulty you experience at home in penetrating the minds of certain persons with a truth as manifest as that of which you have become the eloquent and courageous apostle. However, do not doubt for a single moment that you will be victorious—custom-houses must disappear—it cannot be otherwise. On all sides, in every country of Europe, their suppression forms the subject of discussion amongst the liberal classes, who see that this reform will be one of the most popular measures of the age.

The movement will not be confined to the Liberals, properly so called: all the branches of human activity will soon be conscious of the immense material advantages which the suppression of custom-house shackles will confer upon them; and the Christian Church, which cannot remain unmoved by this unanimous expression of

the fraternal and civilising aspirations of benevolence, will one day echo, if that should be necessary, from the pulpit words of encouragement and sympathy for the mission which you fulfil. Labour and charity cannot fail to march together to the pacific conquest of which you have undertaken the realisation.

God will bless your efforts, and your perseverance and energy will be salutary examples, destined to guide coming generations in the paths of the future.

It will doubtless be gratifying to you to learn that we have with us the unanimous opinion of Belgium. All the chambers of commerce second us. The press has been entirely gained for us; and in our Parliament we have, I am sure, the majority. There wants for us nothing more than a man—a Minister who will, during some months, study the question, and will give himself the trouble to bring it before the Chambers. The thing appears to me so simple that I cannot admit that there would be upon it even a serious or long discussion. The benefit of the suppression of customs duties will be so great, and the results of it are so palpable, that the question only needs stating to be resolved.

You love your country, and therefore you desire that England should lead the way. Everything indicates to me that this honour is reserved for Belgium. The agitation in all minds against the custom-house is so strong here that only a short time can elapse before measures will be taken to satisfy the national will.

Your Ministers will then have an easy task; they will only have to imitate what will have been done here.

Accept, sir, my hearty greetings,

ALEXIS JOFFROY.

I intend to visit England shortly. I shall have the honour of paying to you personally my subscription.

E. K. Muspratt, Esq.

THE CRAWLEY COURT-MARTIAL.

The court-martial on Colonel Crawley has been sitting every day during the week—the fourth week—except Saturday and Sunday. On Wednesday and Thursday the evidence of the sentries posted over Sergeant-Major Lilley was taken. One or two deposed to having seen Mrs. Lilley in her bedroom; others said they had not done so; and several expressed an opinion that as the sentries were posted they could not annoy Mrs. Lilley. The witnesses generally concurred in bearing high testimony to Lilley's character. Two or three of the sentries deposed to having seen the sergeant-major drinking brandy out of a tumbler, and on some occasions desiring them to participate, which of course they said they refused. None of them deposed to having seen him intoxicated. The Commander-in-chief has refused to allow the letter respecting the condition of the Inniskilling Dragoons, upon which it had been proposed to examine Colonel Shute, to be produced, on the ground that it was confidential.

On Friday, Troop-Sergeant Garraway said he had occupied the quarters in which Lilley died; they were cooler than the soldiers' troop-rooms. There was a canvas roof under the tiles, and wet mats in the doors and windows. Witness recollected that, on one morning in particular, Lilley took seven or eight glasses of brandy and soda-water, and always took arrack in his coffee at breakfast. The prosecutor stated that it was intended to put in evidence certain regimental order-books and passages from the report of the Mhow court-martial. Colonel Crawley objected, and several passages were expunged.

The public proceedings of the court on Monday did not commence until late, owing to the members of the court being in private session considering what course should be taken as to certain questions which it is proposed to put to Dr. Barnett, in regard to the exact terms of the statement made by Mrs. Lilley as to her husband's temperate or intemperate habits. These questions are to be put, but it was referred to the Judge-Advocate-General to decide as to the form of the queries. Sergeant Mills was recalled, and gave the particulars of having seen Lilley drunk on various occasions. Adjutant Fitzsimon was also recalled, and underwent a long cross-examination, with the apparent object of eliciting whether he had any discretion in the posting of the sentries.

THE DISTRESS IN LANCASHIRE.—The Central Executive Relief Committee held its usual weekly meeting on Monday at Manchester. From the monthly report presented by the hon. secretary, it appears that in November there were about 10,000 more operatives on short time than during the preceding month. The number in full work has decreased within the month from 266,401 to 248,824, and those entirely out of work have increased from 154,219 to 159,117. Still greater adverse changes are looked for during the remainder of the winter period, and a considerable decrease of work, within the present month, is expected to arise from the effect which will probably be produced upon the price of cotton by the condition of the money-market. The balance in the bank to the credit of the Central Executive Committee now amounts to 237,849*l.*, of which 149*l.* has been received within the last seven days. Of the funds at the disposal of the Poor-law Guardians there are now 1,307 more recipients than in October; and the number of persons entirely dependent on the relief committees has been augmented by 1,957 when compared with the number relieved in October. Sir J. K. Shuttleworth, after some remarks, moved a declaratory resolution to the effect that the works to be provided under the Public Works Act are to provide employment primarily for factory operatives: that such works shall not be under the relief committees, but under the various constituted authorities of towns; and that this committee will not sanction the employment of any men in receipt of relief on public works for which a loan has been obtained under the act. Agreed to. Grants having been made, the committee adjourned.

Postscript.

Wednesday, December 9, 1863.

AMERICA.

(Per City of London.)

NEW YORK, Nov. 27.

The *New York Times* asserts that 2,000,000 bales of cotton are said to be stored at Atlanta, which General Bragg will have great difficulty in removing before General Grant reaches the city.

President Davis reviewed General Lee's army on the 25th.

Official advices from Burnside to the 23rd report him safe. The Southern journals report that Longstreet captured 1,600 prisoners on the 18th, and Wheeler 600.

The same papers report that the Federals made a demonstration on rafts against Fort Sumter on the 20th, and were repulsed. During the day and night of the 21st, thirty-six shells were thrown into Charleston, killing one coloured woman and injuring one white person.

Guerrillas have captured 100 free negroes on a contraband farm six miles from Norfolk.

NEW YORK, Nov. 27 (Evening).

General Grant reports this morning that Bragg's rout is most complete. He abandoned cannons, caissons, and wagons, which are everywhere to be found. General Grant says:—"I think Bragg's loss will reach fifty guns. The pursuit will continue in the morning to Red Clay, for which place I start immediately." Washington despatches report that Sherman crossed the Chickamauga yesterday. Hooker reached Ringold last night. Bragg was in full retreat towards Dalton, burning the bridges and destroying all behind him. A strong Federal column was pursuing Bragg's troops, who are represented as entirely demoralised. It is estimated that the Federals have captured 7,000 prisoners.

NEW YORK, Nov. 28 (Morning).

General Grant reports that Bragg is completely routed. Other despatches represent Bragg's army as nearly destroyed.

General Meade has crossed to the south side of the Rapidan without opposition. It is supposed that a battle with Lee occurred yesterday.

The Confederate military situation in the South-West is considered very unfavourable if not disastrous.

NEW YORK, Nov. 28.

General Meade crossed the Rapidan during the 26th and 27th, at Jacob's, Germania, and Culpepper Fords, and advanced by three different routes, converging on the Orange Court-house road. The Confederates offered no resistance to Meade's passage of the river. Heavy cannonading was heard yesterday near Orange Court-house lasting from morning till night, but no particulars of the engagement have been received. The Confederates have evacuated Fredericksburg heights. Lee's army is estimated to be 50,000 strong. General Ewell is ill, and has been superseded by General Early.

Advices from Chattanooga to last night report that Hooker, Palmer, and Sherman are nearly ten miles from Chickamauga, pursuing Bragg, who is retreating on Dalton. It is reported that Sherman yesterday cut off 2,000 Confederates. Bragg's army is represented to be destroyed. Federal cavalry have destroyed the East Tennessee railroad fifteen miles above and below Cleveland. This is said to isolate Longstreet from Bragg.

Cincinnati despatches of yesterday represent Confederate cavalry as being between Cumberland Gap and Knoxville. General Longstreet has not yet assaulted Knoxville, but has placed his batteries in a position commanding the city.

A Federal column is moving to relieve General Burnside.

General Grant's victory has created comparatively little popular enthusiasm or public demonstration throughout the North.

The *New York Tribune* re-affirms that President Lincoln will announce in his message a plan for restoring the States to the Union which will be in accordance with the furtherance of the Emancipation Proclamation.

Surgeons returned from Richmond report the Federal prisoners as dying at the rate of fifty per day.

NEW YORK, Nov. 28 (Afternoon).

There is no further news from Virginia. Gold opened this morning at 43½, and has since risen to 47½, under unfavourable military rumours.

(From the *Times*' Correspondent.)

Nov. 27.

It was reported through Confederate channels, on the 23rd, that 6,000 Federal troops were marching to the assistance of General Burnside, *via* Jacksborough and Rogersville, in Tennessee, but it was not stated whence they came.

The recent reverses to General Bragg, it is argued, will compel General Longstreet to raise the siege of Knoxville and retreat to Virginia.

The *Richmond Examiner* of the 23rd reports the discovery and frustration of a plot to liberate the Federal prisoners at Richmond.

The "glorious news" from Chattanooga was made the subject of great congratulation by the clergymen of the different cities of the Northern States in their thanksgiving sermons yesterday.

Nov. 28 (11 a.m.).

The Federal cavalry, under Colonel Lang, had commenced destroying the Tennessee and Georgia

Railway north of Cleveland yesterday, with the design of preventing a junction of General Longstreet's forces with those of General Bragg, but were driven off by a superior Confederate force.

The Federal losses since Monday last are now numbered at 3,000 men.

Despatches from the field of operations in Virginia state that General Meade crossed the Rapidan on the afternoon of the 26th and morning of yesterday without serious opposition, and marched towards Robertson Town, in the direction of Orange-Court-house, where it was believed General Lee was strongly entrenched.

There were rumours in Washington yesterday that General Lee had made a counter-movement, and crossed to the north side of the Rapidan, and destroyed General Meade's trains and communications, but they could not be traced to any authentic source.

General Mosby made a dash upon Brandy Station on Thursday night, and destroyed the Federal forage there, captured 139 mules, and destroyed or carried off between 30 and 40 waggons.

ORDER FOR IMMEDIATE EXECUTION IN HOLSTEIN.

The Federal Diet has passed, by a small majority, the resolution for Federal execution in Holstein, reserving for itself the settlement of the question of the succession. The order for the advance of troops into the Duchy was immediately despatched.

Vice-Admiral Irminger, the Danish Extraordinary Ambassador charged with the notification of the accession of King Christian IX., has left Vienna without being received by the Emperor. This circumstance is regarded as a confirmation of the view that, in spite of the withdrawal of the March patent, Austria still insists upon Federal execution in Holstein.

THE CONGRESS—REPLY OF THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.

The replies of the Emperor of Russia and the Kings of Saxony and Wurtemberg to the Emperor's invitation to the Congress have been published. The Emperor of Russia states that he has always recognised the utility of an understanding among the Sovereigns. All the acts of his reign attest his desire to substitute relations of confidence and concord for the state of armed peace, weighing so heavily upon the peoples. His Majesty then says that he had taken the initiative in this direction by the reduction of his army, and continues:—

Eventualities of a nature to menace the security and even the integrity of my States alone caused me to abandon this path. I have an earnest desire to be able to re-enter it, and spare my people the sacrifices which their patriotism accepts, but for which their property suffers.

Nothing could better hasten this movement than a general pacification of the questions which agitate Europe. I should be happy if your Majesty's proposition led to a loyal understanding between the Sovereigns; but for this to be practically realised can only proceed from the consent of the other great Powers. It is indispensable for your Majesty to define the questions upon which an understanding would have to be arrived at, and the basis upon which it would be established.

The object of the pacification of Europe will always have my most earnest sympathies.

THE CONFEDERATE LOAN.—The confirmation of the defeat of General Bragg produced a severe effect on the Confederate Loan, the last official price being yesterday 40 to 44, while after regular hours a sale is stated to have taken place at 35.

THE CRAWLEY COURT-MARTIAL.—The case for the prosecution finally closed yesterday. The court was occupied for the greater part of the day in the re-examination of Drs. Turnbull and Barnett, in reference to the statement in their report of the death of Sergeant-Major Lilley that he had drunk large quantities of brandy during his illness. The statement appears to have been mainly based on information given by Colonel Crawley to Dr. Barnett. Colonel Crawley, when the case for the prosecution was closed, said it was substantially the case for the defence. He had a few witnesses to call, and then he should ask the court to adjourn, for him to prepare his statement for the defence. Some discussion as to the admission of certain documentary evidence was proceeding when the court rose.

MARK-LANE—THIS DAY.

Fresh up to our market this morning, the arrivals of home-grown wheat were very moderate. Good and fine dry samples moved off slowly, at Monday's quotations; otherwise, the trade was dull, at quite that day's fall in currency. With foreign wheat, the market was by no means extensively supplied. Sales, however, progressed slowly in all descriptions, at about stationary qualities. Floating cargoes of grain were in slow request, at late rates. The barley trade was very quiet, and the show of samples was tolerably large. The trade, with the exception of good and fine malting parcels ruled quiet, on former terms. The malt trade was in a sluggish state, yet no change took place in prices. The supply of oats on sale was moderate on the whole, the demand ruled steady, and the quotations were supported. Beans and peas sold heavily, at barely late rates. Barrel flour was in moderate request, at full prices. English, Spanish, and French qualities moved off steadily, at late rates.

| ARRIVALS THIS WEEK. | | | | | |
|---------------------|--------|---------|-------|-------|-------------|
| | Wheat. | Barley. | Malt. | Oats. | Flour. |
| English | 140 | 210 | 310 | 1,170 | 290 |
| Irish | — | — | — | 500 | — |
| Foreign | 5,970 | 14,750 | — | 1,180 | 940 sacks. |
| | | | | | 1,204 bbls. |

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The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1863.

SUMMARY.

MISCALCULATION, or blundering, or both, have betrayed the Confederates into the heaviest disaster, with the exception of the fall of Vicksburg, they have sustained during the war. With a daring confidence, General Longstreet hastened from before Chattanooga, with some 36,000 picked troops, to carry Knoxville, 100 miles to the north-east, by a *coup-de-main*. Burnside slowly retired before him, disputing the ground, till he was within the entrenchments of that town, which Longstreet had by the last accounts invested, except on one side. An obstinate resistance was expected—Burnside having orders to hold out to the last extremity. Meanwhile the heavy reinforcements under Sherman reached Chattanooga unexpectedly early, and Grant resolved at once to relieve Burnside by assailing Bragg. On the 24th, by a series of skilful manœuvres, and after much hard fighting, he drove the Confederates from Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge, which overlook Chattanooga, capturing, it is said, 5,000 prisoners and sixty guns. Next day Bragg hastily retreated from the position he had taken up, abandoning stores and materials, and destroying the bridges behind him. "The rout of the enemy," says General Grant, "was complete." Bragg retired towards Dalton, in the direction of the railway which communicates with Knoxville. Here definite information ends. On the one hand it is said that thirty miles of this railway have been destroyed by the Federals; on the other that they have been repulsed. Any way, the retirement of Longstreet from Knoxville seems probable.

It is said that the great success in Tennessee has created little "popular enthusiasm" in the North, probably owing to the fear of a counter-vailing defeat in Virginia. Meade had been allowed by the Confederates, who were strongly entrenched on the south side, to cross the Rapidan with his whole army. There are the usual rumours of a battle having been fought, vague reports of Lee having made a movement to cut off Meade's supplies, and the ominous fact that by the last accounts the premium on gold had risen four per cent. "under unfavourable military rumours." But Confederate victories in Virginia have hitherto been singularly barren of tangible results. It remains to be seen if another success by Lee will compensate for the overthrow of the Confederate host before Chattanooga.

The good influence produced on, as well as by, Mr. Beecher during his recent visit to England is becoming manifest. In his first public appearance after his return to New York, the eloquent divine was free to admit that some of his prejudices had been shaken. After a prolonged continental tour he was able to return to our island with the sentiment, "Thank God for England." "For with their rugged faults and their wrong-headedness, with the many things that just at this crisis offend us, there is in the national character not that which is, as among the French and many of the continental nations, so prepossessing and so polished in manner, but there is, after all, a foundation of truth and of manliness in their national character; and I felt as though I had come back among the men, and our own sort of men too—brought up under different circum-

stances and influences." Such candid testimony is not to be despised by any who desire a better understanding between the two countries, and it comes from the lips of a man whose influence, always potent in America, has been visibly augmented by his eloquent championship of his country's cause on this side the Atlantic.

The monthly report of the Lancashire Central Committee shows a decrease of about 16,000 in the operatives fully employed; an increase of 10,000 in the short time hands; and 5,000 more out of work; and expresses a "fear that owing to the effect which the condition of the money market may probably have upon the price of cotton, there will be a considerable decrease of work in the mills of the district." Mr. Farnall's weekly statement was, however, more favourable. There has been much discussion in Lancashire as to whether operatives employed under the Public Works Act should be eligible for relief, and on Monday the Central Committee, with scarcely an exception, passed a resolution declaring that the employment of men under the Act should be left solely to town councils or local boards, and declining to sanction the employment of men in receipt of relief on public works. It appears that, in consequence of delays and technical difficulties, this Act is as yet but very partially in operation.

The cotton famine is bringing into view a new class of perils which affect our whole monetary system. Under the influence of the great drain of specie to pay for cotton from India, Egypt, and Brazil, the Bank rate of discount has been raised to eight per cent. The dearth of money, however embarrassing to ordinary trade, will have the effect of checking the undue speculation in cotton which has set in, and tends so greatly to inflate prices. At the best, this one article of commerce is likely to cause great monetary derangement for at least a year to come. Next year's supply from all quarters is reckoned at a minimum of two millions and a half of bales, for which, it is estimated, the country will have to pay some ninety millions sterling, instead of about forty millions under ordinary circumstances. Thus fifty millions will probably be the extra prices paid for cotton in 1864, in consequence of the American war; and though it may eventually come back in the payments for manufactured goods, the delay is long, and the embarrassment to our finances meanwhile very great.

The *Times* has got itself into a disgraceful position. Having with characteristic recklessness and malignity ascribed to Mr. Bright the advocacy of dividing the lands of the rich among the poor, Mr. Cobden wrote to the editor indignantly protesting against "this gross literary outrage." The *Times* publicly promised to insert his letter, but has failed to keep its word. We are not surprised that a paper which can wickedly calumniate one man will break faith to another. The *Times* may well wince under Mr. Cobden's terrible denunciation of the secret and irresponsible practice of stabbing people in the dark. That gentleman appeals from the editor to the public, "and as the only certain mode of abating such outrages as this, to lift the veil and dispel the delusion by which the *Times* is enabled to pursue this game of secrecy to the public and servility to the Government,—a game (I purposely use the word) which secures for its connections the corrupt advantages, while denying to the public its own boasted benefits of the anonymous system." When Mr. Cobden claims that in future the responsible editor, manager, or proprietor of the *Times* should be summoned to the "bar of public opinion, and held up by name to the obloquy which awaits the traducer and calumniator in every other walk of political and social life," he demands that which our English sense of justice ought readily to grant.

THE GOVERNOR-GENERALSHIP OF INDIA.

No appointment to high political office, of late years, has been ratified by so spontaneous an acclamation of the public as that of Sir John Lawrence to the Vice-royalty of India. There are, probably, not a score of educated men in the kingdom who did not feel, immediately on reading the announcement of the decision arrived at by the Government, that it had done, with unusual promptitude, the very best thing it could do. To have broken through the traditions of a century, which limited the choice of Governor-Generals of India to the circle of the British peerage was in itself a praiseworthy innovation, nor are we inclined to credit the suspicion that it was due to the panic which successive deaths had raised in the minds of aristocratic statesmen. The public saw Sir John Lawrence passed over on the last occasion on which the splendid post

was filled, somewhat impatiently, notwithstanding the recent diplomatic services of Lord Elgin—and we will do her Majesty's Ministers the justice to believe, that, on receiving the news of that nobleman's dangerous illness, their thoughts instantly turned towards the late Commissioner of the Punjab as his fitting successor. The appointment followed so speedily upon the publication of the telegram announcing Lord Elgin's illness, the interval for negotiation was so brief, and the arrangement made was so entirely in accordance with what was well-known to be the unanimous desire of the public, that we discover no reasonable ground for the surmise that the office was offered to the man best qualified for it, chiefly because it had become impossible to find an occupant for it among the members of the Upper House.

The satisfaction with which we hail the elevation of Sir John Lawrence to the Indian Vice-royalty is owing primarily and chiefly to our belief, founded upon his own emphatic and solemn utterances, that his supreme object will be so to govern that populous dependency as to discharge that Christian responsibility to its various races which empire, however acquired, has brought with it. We may differ greatly with this eminent man as to some of the modes in which the end is to be reached—and possibly, in his actual administration, events may soon occur to modify some of his plans. But we cannot but place great faith in the man who in 1858 thus clearly placed on record the principle on which, according to his judgment, India should be ruled—"Sir John Lawrence has been led, in common with others, since the occurrence of the awful facts of 1857, to ponder deeply on what may be the faults and shortcomings of the British as a Christian nation in India. In considering topics such as those treated of in this despatch, he would solely endeavour to ascertain what is our Christian duty. Having ascertained that, according to our erring lights and conscience, he would follow it out to the uttermost, undeterred by any consideration. If we address ourselves to this task, it may, with the blessing of Providence, not prove too difficult for us. Sir John Lawrence does entertain the earnest belief that all those measures which are really and truly Christian can be carried out in India, not only without danger to British rule, but, on the contrary, with every advantage to its stability."

Now we do not close our eyes to the possibility of covering by language like this, noble and heart-stirring as it is, modes and details of governmental administration which, "according to our erring lights and conscience," would be profoundly mistaken. But, looking at the actual circumstances of India and to their abnormal character—looking also at what had been the traditional rule and steady practice of the East India Company for nearly a century—and taking into account the numberless legitimate modes in which the guiding principles of Christianity may find expression in the government of the Eastern Peninsula, we are far less afraid that Sir John Lawrence will aim to work out his own high ideal by means of mere machinery, than hopeful that he will use it to give tone, character, and purpose to the whole system of his administration. Sir John's utterance, judging from the history of the man, we take to have been religious, not ecclesiastical—and we cannot but augur well of the future career of a Viceroy who, with unlimited means at his disposal, and with the grandest sphere for usefulness spread out before him, enters upon his duties with the paramount purpose of making all subservient to the fulfilment of Christian obligation. The enterprise which evidently fills his soul has not often been undertaken in this world under more promising auspices, and we shall watch his course, as he moves on towards it, with the deepest interest.

Sir John Lawrence, however, is not a man of pure and lofty intentions only. Probably no man living has been more thoroughly trained than he for the duties of the office to which he has been appointed. He went out to India a mere lad, in the capacity of a writer to the East India Company. As assistant to the Resident at Delhi, more especially when his work in the district threw him entirely upon his own resources, he not only familiarised himself with all the details of provincial administration, but gained a clear insight into the peculiar character of the races with whom he had to deal, and developed to an extraordinary degree his faculty of impressing upon others the decisions of his own will. As Commissioner of the Trans-Sutlej States, he turned his genius and experience to practical account, and as Chief Commissioner of the Punjab, he gave the world an incontestible proof of the success with which, by the sheer force of a strong character sagaciously directed, he converted a nation of enemies among friends into a nation of friends among enemies. It was the most surprising as well as the most critical incident of the mutiny, that Sir John Lawrence,

cut off from communication with the south, at the head of a warlike race but recently subjugated to British sway, and apparently at the mercy of foes who had it in their power to terminate the struggle by our discomfiture, prevailed upon the Sikhs to side with their conquerors, and to re-establish our supremacy in India by the capture of Delhi. The man who achieved this series of marvels, and who, under such a cloud of difficulties, was able to impress his will upon so turbulent a people as the Sikhs, must have possessed in rare perfection the instinct and capacity for rule.

He goes out to the East in time, we trust, to calm the agitation which has begun to show itself on the north-west frontier of the Empire. It is conjectured by the evidently well-informed writer of an article in the *Spectator*, that the name of John Lawrence will suffice in that quarter to quell all thoughts of armed disturbance. We trust our contemporary will prove correct in his anticipations. Peace, continued peace—a long interval of quiet for the development of her rich resources—an equitable adjustment of the relations between capital and labour—a well-organised and efficient police system—and a prompt and cheap as well as reliable administration of justice,—these are the special wants of India, and towards providing for these wants no man is better qualified than Sir John Lawrence, the triumphantly successful ruler of the Punjab.

FEDERAL EXECUTION IN HOLSTEIN.

It seems that the Federal Diet at Frankfort, though by but a small majority, have resolved upon immediate Federal execution in Holstein, and that orders for the advance of troops into the Duchy were forthwith despatched. The revocation by the King of Denmark of the patent of March, 1863, the publication of which proved so irritating to the German people, was generally supposed to be a concession which the Confederacy would take in good part, and which would prevent it from venturing upon any hasty step calculated to bring about a collision. Christian IX., however, has by his moderation provoked the ill-will of his own subjects, without conciliating the powerful foe to his kingdom. The Diet, it is true, has not outstepped the limits of its constitutional authority—but, in deciding upon the instant military occupation of Holstein, it indicates either a singular blindness or a reckless indifference to the chances of war.

Perhaps, no one people can thoroughly comprehend, far less appreciate the force of, the idiosyncrasy of another. We confess ourselves utterly beaten in our attempt to explain to our own minds the all-engrossing interest taken by the Germans in this Schleswig-Holstein dispute. The Duchy is insignificant considered merely as a slip of Germanic territory. Its population is small. Its geographical position of no importance. Its political condition, compared with most of the German States, is one of enviable freedom. And yet, the decision of the representative chamber at Berlin, and the unmistakable temper of the Reichsrath at Vienna, to say nothing of the unanimity and heat of the whole German press, show that, petty as we regard the object of their quarrel with Denmark, there must be something in it which powerfully appeals to the national sentiment of the Germans. Princes and people are alike moved—the latter more deeply than the former. No counteractive has force enough to prevent an outburst of popular feeling. The constitutional struggle which, till now, preoccupied the sympathies of the Prussians—the dread of the Austrians lest they might be dragged into another war—the rivalries of the two Powers for the hegemony of Germany—all are lost sight of in presence of the Schleswig-Holstein question. Whether the excitement is to be set down to the score of race, or to any other cause, it still seems to us to partake of the character of infatuation. But one thing is certain—that it must be regarded as a real element in the case, and that no external compression, however irresistible for the moment, is likely to be successful in settling a difference capable of producing such manifestations as Europe has witnessed within the last few days.

We fear there is more behind—and that the most dangerous symptoms of the affair are the least obtrusive. Prussia and Austria have alike declared themselves bound, conditionally at least, by the Treaty of London—but neither of them, we fear, is disposed to admit any concession of Denmark to be sufficient which does not allow the Diet to do with Schleswig what it has a right to do with Holstein. The patent of March, 1863, was so offensive to the Germans, because the King of Denmark declared thereby that he was unable to carry out the intentions expressed by him in 1852, and therefore substituted for them the "complete autonomy of Holstein." The Holsteiners, consequently, have little or nothing

to complain of. What is wanted is to apply to Schleswig precisely the same measures as have been conceded to Holstein—in a word, to detach that Duchy in ail but the *suzeraineté* of the King from the Kingdom of Denmark, and make it a member of the German Confederation. To this end the concessions and promises made by the Treaty of 1852, have been interpreted by the Federal Diet in a sense which made it impossible for Frederick VII to comply with them without dismembering the Danish kingdom. And in the same spirit the revocation of the patent of 1863 by Christian IX. seems but to have turned Austria back upon the old line of complaint, compelling Count Rechberg to justify Federal dissatisfaction by the plea that "rights have been persistently violated by the Danish Government for the last ten years."

At any rate, Federal execution in Holstein has been ordered. The flaming brand is to be carried into the magazine of combustibles—and the pressure of all Germany is to be brought to bear upon Denmark, ostensibly for enforcing the rights of Holstein, really for extorting concessions in regard to Schleswig. Count Rechberg told the Austrian Reichsrath that "the Imperial Government is convinced that the great non-German Powers will not refuse to recognise the justice of the demand which the Confederation is in course of pursuing, by means of constraint, in virtue of the convention of 1851, and consequently, that the Federal execution in Holstein will not compromise the peace of Europe." Perhaps not—let us devoutly hope so, at least. But when men choose to play with fire in a rick-yard, they have but little right to be confident that there will be no conflagration. Should Count Rechberg's anticipations be disappointed, and a European war ensue, no Power will rue the disaster more bitterly than Austria.

BOUND OVER TO KEEP THE PEACE.

As in the olden time every sovereign had his jester who claimed the privilege of wrapping up many a bitter truth in jokes, so the modern autocrat is followed by a monitor in the shape of a financier, who periodically reminds him of the limitations of his power. M. Achille Fould, to change the figure, keeps the key of the closet where the skeleton of the Imperial household is concealed. Once a year, at least, the major domo takes his master to the chamber, and gives him a glimpse of the grim and undecieving spectre that presides over his destinies. The door is now open. We also can behold in the dim obscurity the shadowy form that modifies the schemes, chastens the pride, and regulates the actions of the Emperor Napoleon. We see it utter a warning voice, dissipate with a wave of the hand captivating illusions, and bring the Imperial spectator in presence of stern reality.

The annual lesson taught by this periodical and humbling exhibition has, thus far, been imperfectly learnt by the illustrious pupil. For a long while he has been endeavouring to compound with Fate, to make light of the warnings of his closet monitor, to put off the evil day. But the spectre becomes increasingly menacing the more it is trifled with—its grip of the Imperial will the firmer as time elapses. Napoleon III. stands face to face with an accumulated deficit which no amount of ingenuity—no tricks of financial legerdemain—can conceal. Turn it about which way he will—add, subtract, divide—talk as he may of extraordinary credits, reproductive investments, glorious expeditions, public works—the deficit of forty millions sterling meets the gaze, and cannot be evaded. That all the grand Imperial schemes should finally leave so vulgar a residuum is provoking, but inevitable. M. Fould's annual budget takes the gilt off a year of dazzling achievements—his present financial statement is a new and the severest check upon the aspirations of his Imperial master.

The picture of Napoleon III. seated aloft, like cloud-compelling Jupiter, guiding or changing the destinies of Europe, is, after all, to a great extent, imaginary. The Fates were superior to Jove—a Napoleon is controlled by a Fould. The Emperor himself, with his customary sagacity, recognises the limitations that circle him round. His retention of M. Fould, and the annual financial exposition, are acts of homage to an influence he is unable to subdue. The more narrowly we look below the surface, the more apparent is the number and strength of the checks to Imperial absolutism. During Napoleon III.'s reign the material and mercantile interests of France have been expanding on every hand, and the commercial classes have grown to be an important element in the community. And it is only just to say that they have been fostered by the Imperial policy. The enormous development of wealth, the relaxation of protection, the conclusion of commercial treaties with foreign countries,

have been so many fetters to that aggressive policy which, according to alarmists, Louis Napoleon always has in reserve.

We cannot, therefore, see any reason for subscribing to the conclusion of some of our Liberal contemporaries that the Emperor has any designs menacing to the peace of Europe. If he is denied the credit of proposing a Congress with a sincere desire to settle by pacific means, outstanding difficulties in Europe and abating excessive armaments, it must be allowed that the scheme he lately threw down before Europe enables him to avoid going to war single-handed on behalf of Poland, though in taking that step he might have been sustained by public sentiment. And although the summary rejection of his plan by the British Government was well calculated to excite mortification and irritation, the semi-official press has been stopped in the expression of opinions likely to arouse animosity against this country. A potentate meditating war would scarcely have allowed his Finance Minister to present to him a report, the drift of which is so palpably a plea for the maintenance of peace. "I long with all my heart for the day," says M. Fould in concluding his Report, "when, by the reduction of our expenses, combined with the improvement of our receipts, it will be possible to re-establish the regular working of the sinking fund, and to diminish the public debt. If at a future time the equilibrium of our budgets is maintained—if your generous efforts ensure peace, the prosperous state of our finances will permit the reduction of taxation, and realise thus the fondest desire of your Majesty." These sentiments, we may believe, accord with those of the Emperor, or they would not have been given to the world, and they certainly are in harmony with those of the French commercial classes.

With such genuine indications of a pacific policy, and remembering that the Emperor has undertaken to establish a stable government in Mexico, with the certainty that that country will, for a long time to come, be a great drain on the resources of France, we are unable to see any grounds for distrust, or for the maintenance on our part of excessive armaments out of fear of France. Europe may be unsettled, but it is not in consequence of the menaces of the Emperor Napoleon. He may desire, with the sagacity of a far-seeing statesman, to solve dangerous complications by mutual counsel and concessions, before they threaten the tranquillity of Europe; but, apart from his own personal leanings, the aspect of affairs in France and elsewhere binds him over to keep the peace.

THE DOOM OF SLAVERY.

THE signs that the American war has finally taken the form of an anti-slavery war are visible on every hand. This tremendous issue has been accepted with manifest reluctance by the Northern people, and Northern statesmen. At the outset, the Abolitionists were a mere handful of the community, and while the South from the first fought for slavery, the North did not avowedly fight against it. Every Federal defeat made the position less distasteful to the North; the Proclamation increased the number of fugitive blacks; the scarcity of volunteers necessitated their formation into negro regiments; and the course of events obliged the adoption of emancipation in the District of Columbia, and the great border State of Missouri. War is a great revolutionist of opinion—a nation in a death-struggle is not in the mood to weigh with nicety questions of state policy. To the surprise even of Americans, the autumn elections swept away the Democratic platform—"the Union as it was, the Constitution as it is;" and now—we quote the New York correspondent of the *Times*—"the North begins to feel that the quickest and surest way to compound with the rebellion is to trample it utterly, and to crush it and slavery—cause and effect—one and for ever."

Northern statesmen, so reluctant, and not without reason, to face the dread alternative, are beginning to adopt the same conclusion—that the abolition of slavery is now the easiest way out of their difficulties. Mr. Seward, who predicted the "irrepressible conflict" more than a generation ago, and urged its prevention by constitutional means is amongst the last to give in. But at the opening of the cemetery on the battle-field of Gettysburg he said:—"I thank my God that I believe this strife is going to end in the removal of that evil which ought to have been removed by peaceful means and deliberate councils." The person of Mr. Seward, the moderate Republican, gives in their adhesion to inevitable abolitionist policy.

Amid this revolution of Northern opinion, Southerners remain firm as a rock, their creed with almost sublime consistency. Even while engaged in the d

wishful of foreign aid and sympathy, the Confederate leaders find time to cashier Mr. Spence for hinting that the new commonwealth will in time throw off its incubus, and to warn their agents abroad that slavery is a forbidden subject in their intercourse with foreign Governments. The possibility that the institution was to be loosened died away with the rumour that the Confederates were about to arm half a million of blacks. That there may be no mistake, the *Richmond Enquirer*, believed to be Jefferson Davis's own organ, only a fortnight ago assured an officious French journal that if the Confederate Government desired to interfere with slavery, "public opinion would not sustain nor endure it." Could they not "have made better terms with the old United States than with any European nation before engaging in a desperate war?" This is no matter "of temper and pride and passion alone." Let it be known, says the *Enquirer*, "that the Confederate people calmly and considerately prefer their social and industrial institutions to those of any other land—that our consciences are easy about them—that we believe those institutions supply us with that just and humane balance between capital and labour which society in Europe so deeply needs." This is the language, not of an apologist, but of a propagandist. "Our system is too good to be kept to ourselves—we must extend it," is not only the abstract theory, but has been for a quarter of a century the practical policy, of American slaveholders. To the new Northern creed that in order to restore the Union slavery must perish, the Southerners respond, "We will perish rather than surrender slavery." Providence seems to have so overruled events that all false pleas should one by one be set aside, and the conflict reduced to the one simple issue—slavery or emancipation.

And, further, can we fail to see the Divine hand in the shape which events are at length taking in America? Let these striking facts, stated also by the *Times* correspondent, be carefully pondered:—

Already there is no doubt that slavery, to all intents and purposes, has ceased to be in all the Border States; it is on its last gasp in the other invaded regions. The proportion of slaves to the white population in Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia, Kentucky, and Missouri was before the war, in 1860, 469,401 to 2,789,523—i.e., one slave to six free whites. In Old Virginia, Tennessee, Arkansas, Mississippi, and Louisiana, the lands now already partly occupied by the Northerners, the proportion was 1,005,191 slaves to the 709,914 free whites. In North and South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, and Texas, there were 1,875,563 slaves to 540,529 free whites; the coloured population was considerably more than half the number of the white race, and in some of those States, as in South Carolina, the slaves actually outnumbered the free whites. But since the outbreak of the war, the slaves in those territories into which the Northerners have extended their conquests may be looked upon as virtually lost to their owners. About 600,000 of them have been emancipated; the rest have been driven by the Confederates themselves into the Southern States still defended by their arms. It is calculated that from 1,000,000 at least to 1,800,000 have been thus transmigrated, and by this time the black population of North and South Carolina, and especially Georgia, must far exceed, and almost double, the white.

"Every month, every day, the war is prolonged," adds the same writer, "tells the death knell of the peculiar institution of the South." The fact is not new—the novelty consists in the quarter whence the admission emanates. Hitherto, to a great extent, slavery has been a source of strength to the South. But the tide of war has driven the institution out of the Border States, as well as Tennessee, Mississippi, and Louisiana, and is concentrating it in the Gulf States. Once extinguished, it is not likely to be restored in those vast regions now in Federal occupation, where free industry is already rooting itself to the soil; while in Georgia and North and South Carolina the accumulation of negroes must, in course of time, become an embarrassment if not a danger. Will the whites of those States be any more enamoured of the war they are carrying on now they find their estates inundated by other men's "property"? If there is scarcity in Virginia, notwithstanding a bountiful harvest, is there not danger of scarcity in Georgia, where a doubled population, plus an immense army, eats up the produce of the soil, and tempts the rapacity of speculators? To the military difficulties of the South, social complications, even more trying, seem impending. "The stars in their courses fought against Sisera." Chicamauga yields a barren victory—slavery itself, so long an aid, is turning upon its abettors. When even victories do not permanently help the South—when there is a glut of slaves in the territory still held by the Confederates, and they become as it were locusts to consume the produce of the soil—when their agriculturalists refuse to part with their crops except for Federal greenbacks, and emigration is setting in from Secessionia to val soil, that process of decomposition seems commenced which is the forerunner of the evolution of a Confederacy set up in all law, human and Divine.

THE HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN.

Few of our readers probably have failed to hear or read of a deed of tender love and thoughtfulness by which our beloved Queen has recently endeared herself to the poor little inmates of this institution. A present of a quantity of toys of all descriptions has been sent to its managers by her command, together with a similar present from her Royal Highness the Princess Helena and his Royal Highness Prince Alfred. And right royal toys they will prove to the occupants of those little solitary beds, patient and easily pleased though they are, when the dolls, scrap-books, and hymn-books have been called into service alternately and dismissed through the many dreary hours of confinement. We can fancy how a rollicking Chinaman turning his eyes about, or "a duck of a doll" demurely walking from end to end of the mantelpiece, apparently without provocation, will cheer many a listless heart, and even restore something of the wonted mirth and jollity of childhood in full health. This is not the first occasion, however, on which her Majesty has thus bestowed kindly thought upon this institution; for, although the fact may have been chronicled only in its Governors' annual report, we learn that in the winter of last year, during her stay in Germany, she directed a large selection of toys to be made for the same purpose. Surely no eloquence of tongue or pen can add to the moral power of such an act, performed at such a time. Does it not justly reproach the cruel murmur which at that time had found expression in the columns of some of our contemporaries relative to the seclusion of the Royal Widow? Grief is not morbid when it can bring forth such fruit as this.

But what of the hospital? If the reader feels tempted to walk through its rooms and see the little ones whose good fortune has been so prominently recorded, he has the same feeling which directed our steps to No. 49, Great Ormond-street, one morning last week. If the supposition that he follows the bent of inclination be allowed to assume the shape of a fact, he will be received there with every mark of kindness and courtesy, and will find in his guide and informant an eagerness to interest him in all the details of hospital management and treatment of the patients. To those, however, who cannot personally visit the hospital, we will tell what we saw last week, and what Miss Mulock saw in 1861, or rather let her tell.

The room which we entered, or rather the suite of rooms—making the drawing-floor of those banished nobilities who had once inhabited Great Ormond-street—was very unlike the ward of an ordinary hospital. It was rather like a spacious night nursery, with neat little beds scattered about; warm, cheery fires, with a couch on each side the fireplace; and a few children lying or squatting about, or sitting up in their pallets, quietly playing with toys, reading books, doing bead-work. Some, too ill for either work or play, were stretched mournfully yet peacefully on their pillows—solitary, it is true, but without giving any impression of dreariness or forlornness. The rooms were airy, light, and warm: there was nothing whatever of the hospital feeling and hospital atmosphere.

Yes, time has put other forms and faces on those beds, but "Nature, the dear old nurse," is allowed to be top-sawyer now as she was then, and there is the trace of her treatment visible in every room. Light, air, cleanliness, are, after all, the most potent medicines, and here they are administered in wise and liberal proportions. And surely she has something to say about the calm but eager smile on the faces of these little sufferers. Would it play around those same features if her counsels were neglected, and these her patients breathed a stifling air or ate a scanty meal? But we must not undervalue the services of the physicians and under nurses, who, after all, carry out the directions of their guide. Of these again Miss Mulock shall speak, for she speaks again of things not only as they were, but as they are:—

Another peculiarity I noticed as much as the patience of the children—that the nurses seemed to have their hearts in their work. Without a single exception, every official I saw connected with the place seemed to take a personal interest in it, and to work for love as well as for necessity. No doubt this arises from the strong influence exerted by the heads of the hospital over all its employees, and from the care taken that all these employees should be women of character and capability fitted for their duties. It seemed here exactly as it is in a household, where you can usually judge not only the servants by the masters, but the masters by their servants.

Now, although it is not a practice of ours to make appeals for charitable institutions through our columns, we may unhesitatingly say that this hospital deserves the largest success. It was established in 1850 by nine gentlemen, two of whom were in the medical profession. Their aim was, we believe, threefold, and such is the purpose for which the institution now exists; namely—I. For the medical and surgical treatment of poor children. II. For the attainment and diffusion of knowledge regarding

the diseases of children. III. For the training of nurses for children. After an existence of twelve years the governors are able to report that they have had during that time 3,078 in-patients and 76,602 out-patients. Their income last year was 4,703*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.*, and their expenditure a trifle more, showing a small balance due to the treasurer. They have fifty-two beds, which are pretty constantly occupied, and they administer relief to 10,000 out-patients yearly. Of course with limited means and limited accommodation they cannot allow admission of patients indiscriminately. An annual subscriber of two guineas may recommend one in-patient and five out-patients yearly, and subscribers for a larger sum may recommend them in a larger proportion. How often do the district visitor or the city missionary meet with distressing instances of infantile disease which fades gradually into premature decay and death, solely because the poverty or neglect or drunkenness of parents will not even allow the healing processes of nature to have their sway. And how often are the purse and the heart ready to aid the distressed, but the really deserving and importunate are denied access to both, because they are grasped by greedy but more successful competitors. Combining these two reflections, there needs no appeal to induce a third, which is that the generosity of the donor may be wisely directed, and the heart of the missionary encouraged, by such an organisation of effort as will enable the one and the other to render substantial service to those who would otherwise be bereft of the help of either.

"MY PAPER."

WHETHER journalism will ever occupy in this country the all-important position to which it has reached in the United States of America seems very doubtful. Notwithstanding its release, of late years, from all fiscal restrictions, the area of its influence will be narrowed, for a good while yet to come, by causes which are scarcely operative on the other side of the Atlantic. We confess we are not quite satisfied that a nation of newspaper-readers must needs have been conducted by the press to the highest pitch of political development. We would not be thought to disparage our craft—but certainly it is our private opinion that only in a very subordinate sense indeed can it be contended that in the multitude of newspapers there is wisdom. It is better, perhaps, to make men think in platoons by means of fuglemen, than that they should not think at all—but it hardly follows as a matter of course that the more fuglemen there are the better. There is a tyranny of opinion which, for the very reason that it is less responsible perhaps than any other tyranny, and is more subtle and evasive in its modes of operation, is much to be dreaded. There is less hope of the conversion of a newspaper-ridden community from the error of its way, than of almost any other. Fashion has been denounced time out of mind as a goddess of slaves—but not one in twenty of us seriously reflects how like to clay in the hands of a potter is his own mind under the constant sway of his paper.

In large provincial towns, and, for that matter, in many small ones also, "my paper" is not quite so exclusively authoritative as in the metropolis. There is somewhat more leisure than in London. There are news-rooms in which more than one journal is provided. There is more reading on both sides of a topic, and, consequently, less implicit trust in the views advocated in "my paper." Here, on the contrary, newspaper-reading is, with a very large class, simply a railway occupation, and every passenger to and from his residence or his place of business imbibes the mental sustenance furnished for him by his favourite journal. The effect is curious. In and about London, you may almost infallibly tell what newspaper a man is in the habit of reading by his talk upon politics. We have been amused over and over again with the confident dogmatism with which afternoon passengers have reproduced, one after another, in every variety of shade but the original, the statements, opinions, and arguments they had hastily picked up from the *Times* in their morning ride. They give you, without seeming to be at all conscious of it, an echo of the tone of it likewise. They absorb nothing—they assimilate nothing—all that enters their organs of vision is thrown off again at a more or less deflected angle by their organs of speech. They are but *viâ voce* editions of "my paper"—not always well got up, it is true—in which you will find, a little confused and distorted, the same topics, the same thoughts upon them, and the same air of solemnity, swagger, or insouciance which were presented to them by their morning journal. To a much wider extent than is suspected, what we

dignify by the name of public opinion is nothing more than the multitudinous reflex of "my paper"—myriads of facets giving back the light of a single mind.

The phenomenon pointed out above is not a flattering one—but there are others which deserve notice. The tie of connection between a man and his paper is sometimes a much closer, and, we may add, more estimable one than that already indicated. In this case, it generally grows out of moral sympathy between writers and readers. A man may come to think and speak of "my paper" as a something to which he has grown related,—a kind of corporate entity of which his own convictions, predilections, prejudices, affections, and volitions constitute an essential element—an organ of utterance, prized as such, because it puts into definite and visible form the thoughts and feelings which occupy his mind. In such instances, "my paper" is supposed to derive some part of its obligations from the nearness of its relationship to its own readers. The latter feel that the character and course of the journal belong in some proportion to themselves, and they watch over both with as much jealousy as if their personal responsibility were under pledge. The feeling, unquestionably, has a basis in truth and in fact—but it sometimes expresses itself in somewhat fantastic modes. It is occasionally assumed, not perhaps in terms but in signification—that "my paper" is infringing a well-understood rule of propriety in setting forth an opinion upon this or the other topic, which is not in unison with the opinion of the particular reader in question. The offence is looked upon in the light of a breach of tacit law or decorum, hard to be borne without resentment, and calling, at the very least, for a mild protest. An individual gets to think of his paper as part and parcel of his apparatus for giving public expression to his sentiments—and he has a notion that in cases in which the sentiment uttered is not his own, a wrong has been inflicted on him of which he may justly complain.

It is not always that this assertion of appropriated rights is accompanied by an equally clear recognition of corresponding duties. "My paper" does not invariably get its due. Many a one who is most interested in its contents, never bestows a thought upon the process by which they are brought together. So long as the viands are both wholesome and palatable, few care to charge themselves with any concern for what goes on in the kitchen. They are not selfish, they are only inconsiderate. Hundreds will have a look at "my paper," not now and then only, but as often as it appears, without feeling themselves bound to make to it any other return than their silent thanks. They partake of the fruit with relish—but they forget to contribute to the soil in which it grows. Let it not be supposed, however, that we say this by way of complaint. We merely point out a defect of susceptibility common to the circle of readers of which every journal may boast. The newspaper press of all shades of opinion is better read than supported, and its duties are more stringently enforced than its rights are spontaneously recognised. Conscience, in this matter, would certainly bear further cultivation. The phrase, "my paper," has two sides to it. If it implies more or less of consideration due from it to me, it implies also more or less consideration due from me to it. The habits of the reading public in England are a little lax in the observance of this latter implication. Very few journals indeed enjoy a support at all comparable to the extent of the party they respectively represent, or in proportion to the reputation they have achieved.

A lengthened experience in journalism will be sure to comprise a large number and variety of amusing facts in connection with "my paper." A single communication, even though it be only on business, will sometimes wonderfully illustrate the character of the individual from whom it comes, revealing sometimes a strength, sometimes a weakness, not discernible by other means. We are not going to disclose any of the secrets of our profession, which has certainly furnished us frequently enough with food for laughter. "Stop my paper," is an order never very agreeable to receive—but it is occasionally enforced by reasons which read like a joke. It is a most curious feature, however, of journalistic experience, though not without a touch of melancholy in it, that "my paper" seems to set agoing the *cacoethes scribendi* of the insane. Letters to editors filled with the outpourings of minds thrown off their balance, are too common to be regarded as exceptional, and offer an interesting topic for speculation. Do newspapers present any special attractions to people whose reason has become clouded? or are they sought merely as affording an outlet to thoughts

beyond the control of judgment, and struggling to find expression.

After all, it ill becomes us to make light, or even to seem to make light, of the subtle ties which link together a newspaper and its readers. The relationship is one which, although it may sometimes show us the oddities of human nature, always imposes serious responsibilities. In many and increasing instances, we take pleasure in believing, these responsibilities are sedulously cherished. In some, there is too glaring evidence that, to a great extent, they are set at naught. The tendency, we cannot but believe, is upwards—and the time, we trust, is not extremely remote when "my paper" will have a stronger right to influence the political thinking of the community than, in the majority of cases, it can boast of at the present moment.

Foreign and Colonial.

THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

FEDERAL VICTORY AT CHATTANOOGA.

Telegrams dated Chattanooga, the 23rd ult., published in the Cincinnati and Washington papers, report that a reconnaissance in force was made by General Thomas, which discovered the army of General Bragg to be falling back towards Chickamauga. The Confederates were in force near Missionary Ridge. The Federals charged the Confederate position, and obtained possession of a portion of the high ground north of and near to the Ridge, capturing 200 prisoners.

Grant reports as follows from Chattanooga on the evening of the 24th inst.:—"Sherman carried the end of Missionary Ridge to-day. His right is now at the Tunnel, and his left at Chickamauga Creek. Troops from Look-out Valley carried the point of the mountain, and hold the eastern slope and the point high up. Hooker reports 2,000 prisoners taken, besides a small number fallen into our hands from Missionary Ridge."

A telegram from New York of the 26th, *vid Halifax*, says:—"On the night of the 24th inst., Bragg evacuated Look-out Mountain, moving south. Hooker occupied Look-out, and was expected to intercept the Confederates in the vicinity of Rossville and in the region east of it. At the same time Sherman assaulted the north-east of Missionary Ridge, and was repulsed with heavy loss. But being reinforced he renewed the assault, and reached within twenty yards of the summit, but was flanked and compelled to retire to his reserves. The Confederates then massed heavily on Sherman's right, but Grant started two columns, which broke the Confederate centre, and gained possession of the Ridge, the Confederate main force being driven northward towards Sherman, who opened upon them, driving them, disordered, down the western slope of Missionary Ridge, and across the western ridge of the Chickamauga. General Hooker now holds Lookout on the right, Palmer and Granger hold the centre between Lookout and Missionary Ridge, and Sherman holds the left with his right on Missionary Ridge, and his left on Chickamauga Creek. The Federals estimate their captures at 5,000 prisoners and forty guns. Their loss is small. The Confederate loss in killed and wounded is unknown."

It is regarded as certain in Washington that General Grant would avail himself of the absence of Longstreet's troops to inflict a heavy blow against Bragg, as his force now largely outnumbered that of the Confederate General.

THE INVESTMENT OF KNOXVILLE.

This town of Eastern Tennessee is invested by Longstreet with 36,000 men. It is said that he has a considerable artillery force. Burnside is resolved to hold out to the last under direct orders from General Grant, and has notified as much to the citizens.

Cincinnati despatches of the 25th state that Knoxville was closely invested on the north side, but the south side was open. General Burnside was confident of success. General Bragg reports, on the 19th ult., that Wheeler's cavalry drove the Federal cavalry into Knoxville, capturing 300 prisoners. The Confederate infantry was close up to the city.

General Bragg, under date of the 23rd ult., officially notified to General Cooper that the Confederates held all the roads leading to Knoxville excepting the one between Chatsen and Broad French rivers, which he believed would be also speedily closed.

General Wheeler had captured a Federal train between Cumberland Gap and Knoxville.

The *Richmond Dispatch* of the 24th says:—"There are rumours of a Confederate occupation of Knoxville, but nothing official to this effect has transpired. Two thousand Federals have passed through Rogersville and five regiments through Jacksborough, en route for Kentucky."

On the 23rd General Foster passed through Cincinnati en route to relieve General Burnside of the command at Knoxville.

THE SIEGE OF CHARLESTON.

Accounts from Charleston to the 20th ult., per the steamer Fulton, report the sea-wall of Sumter to be entirely destroyed, and the bombardment still in progress. The Confederates were building bomb-proofs in the ruins.

Letters from Folly Island now state that it is not the intention of General Gilmore to take possession of the site of Sumter, he being satisfied that he

could not hold it, but to completely destroy its aggressive and defensive power.

The monitor *Lehigh*, while on picket duty on the 16th, grounded. A terrific fire was immediately opened on her by the Confederate batteries, and for a while her destruction seemed almost certain. The rest of the monitor fleet were sent to her rescue, and succeeded in towing her, in a damaged condition, out of range.

VIRGINIA.

The latest telegrams say that Meade was mud-bound on the Rapidan. Deserters estimate General Lee's effective force at upwards of 60,000 men, and he is declared to be fully prepared for an advance and attack by General Meade. It is reported that orders have been issued directing that all guerrillas who may be captured are to be immediately shot.

THE EXPEDITION TO TEXAS.

The headquarters of General Banks were still at Brownsville on the 5th.

Letters from New Orleans of the 13th announce that the troops lately operating in the Teche country under General Franklin embarked on that day at Brahear City, on Berwick Bay, for some point, not made public, on the Texas coast.

A Mobile despatch of the 19th asserts that General Taylor had defeated Franklin's forces near Alexandria, Louisiana, and Weitzel's division near (place omitted), with heavy loss.

An officer with General Banks estimates that the occupation of the line of the Rio Grande will secure 250,000 bales of cotton to the Federal markets.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Considerable excitement was caused by reports reaching Burlington, Vermont, to the effect that the Confederates in Montreal were about to attempt the seizure of Fort Montgomery, and then plunder Plattsburg and Burlington. Governor Smith, of Vermont, immediately took measures to prevent the possibility of any such plot being carried out. The scheme was believed to be part of the Johnson's Island conspiracy.

An army-contractor named Setler has been sentenced by court-martial to five years' imprisonment in the Pennsylvania Penitentiary for swindling the Government by supplying worthless provisions under a heavy contract. It is expected that an investigating committee will be formed when Congress meets, and some rich disclosures are looked for.

It is reported that the Governor of Maryland will refuse to grant commissions to the newly-elected Congressmen.

The Northern press urge the reinforcement of Banks on the Rio Grande.

Admiral Lissowski, with several vessels of the Russian fleet, had left for Washington.

The movement among the labouring classes for higher wages continued.

The French Government adhered to its determination to refuse exchanges of prisoners until the Confederates agree to exchange coloured troops. The Confederates decline to comply with this demand.

In consequence of the favourable war news from East Tennessee gold had declined from 153 to 147½ at New York.

The *Cincinnati Inquirer* of the 21st states, upon what it pronounces to be trustworthy authority, that Mr. Chase has tendered his resignation of the Secretaryship of the Treasury to the President, in order to take the place of the Hon. Mr. Taney, who, it announces, has also resigned the position of Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

The steamer *Banshee*, a blockade-runner, with a cargo of coffee, tobacco, and dry goods, was captured on the 21st by the transport *Fulton*. The *Banshee* is a Clyde-built iron vessel, and has run the blockade eight times.

THE FEDERAL ARMIES AND THE FREED NEGROES.

The *New York Christian Times* reports a large meeting held in response to a call of the Freedmen's Relief Association, to hear an appeal from the Rev. W. S. Fiske, in behalf of the freed negroes in General Grant's department. The Rev. Dr. Tyng presided, and spoke of the Federal victories which had been gained since the last meeting of the association, one year ago. Another class of victories, he said, perhaps even more important, had occurred within the last few weeks. He referred to the recent elections. All these victories had been carried out upon the principle that rebellion was slavery, and slavery was rebellion. The overwhelming of the rebellion would be the extermination of slavery, and the extermination of slavery the overwhelming of this rebellion. The Rev. W. S. Fiske then read an address, in which he stated that there are 50,000 blacks, from whose numbers have been taken every able-bodied man for the military service, now camping on the banks of the Mississippi, in old, ragged tents. The Rev. Dr. Hitchcock having spoken, a set of resolutions were adopted, calling upon the people, especially the ladies, the Chamber of Commerce, Board of Brokers, Corn Exchange, and other associations, to contribute funds for the amelioration of the condition of the black freedmen. [A report recently made by the Chaplains' Association at Vicksburg, shows the condition of the contrabands in that department to be very distressing. Not less than 35,000 are gathered on the banks of the Mississippi from Helena to Natchez. The able-bodied men are nearly all in the army as soldiers or servants. The report says that there has been fearful mortality, both among the enlisted negroes and those in the contraband camps—the causes being insufficient shelter and clothing, change of diet, and lack of employment.]

ALLEGED INSURRECTIONARY MOVEMENTS OF THE SOUTHERN NEGROES.—There have been, it is said, no less than five attempts at slave insurrection in

Georgia since July. One, the last, in Hancock county, seems to have been quite a serious affair. The *Macon (Ga.) Confederate*, of October 14, says about it:—

The reported insurrection of the blacks in Hancock county seems to have been a more serious affair than first supposed. From reliable information communicated to us, quite a large number of negroes are implicated in the intended revolt. Their organization was complete, and officers chosen, from that of major-general down to corporal. The chief of the conspiracy is an artful and intelligent fellow, who was well qualified to be a leader of such a dangerous enterprise.

He was the major-general of the forces, and proceeded to Atlanta on business connected with the plot. The plan was laid to join Rosecrans when he arrived and captured Atlanta, after first killing off all the old white men and women and children, and appropriating the young women as wives. To this they were put up by designing rascals from Lincolnism, who are now infesting the whole country. A number of the ringleaders of the plot have been arrested and lodged in the Hancock jail, and with them the major-general, who was brought in from Atlanta.

On arriving at the jail and seeing his comrades "cribbed," he said to them scornfully, "You have played—haven't you," and then subsided into stubborn silence in reference to his object. Judge Thomas has ordered an extra session of the Superior Court for the third Monday of this month to investigate the case and properly punish these misguided and desperate malcontents, if found guilty, as they are sure to be, from the disclosures already made. Let other communities take warning.

Such uneasiness and concerted action naturally result from the dense crowding together of the slaves who have been run into Georgia and Alabama by their masters, who would fain preserve their infamous power.

THE RECENT ELECTIONS.—The *New York Independent* gives the Republican majorities in the recent elections in the following form:—Maine, 17,500; New Hampshire, 600; Massachusetts, 42,000; Rhode Island, 3,000; Connecticut, 2,600; Vermont, 18,000; New York, 30,000; Pennsylvania, 15,000; Delaware, 100; Maryland, 20,000; West Virginia, 10,000; Ohio, 85,000; Indiana, 5,000; Illinois, 30,000; Michigan, 8,000; Iowa, 25,000; Wisconsin, 30,000; Minnesota, 12,000; Kansas, 18,000; Kentucky, 50,000; Oregon, 3,500; California, 15,000; Missouri, 1,000; total, 431,300. Opposition:—New Jersey, 10,000; net Union majority, 421,300.

FRANCE.

M. Fould's financial report has been published. It states that the total amount of the deficit is 972,000,000f. It is necessary to consolidate part of the floating debt. The produce of the loan will be employed to redeem the treasury bonds, and will put in circulation an amount corresponding to that which it will demand. M. Fould proposes to the Emperor to fix the amount of the loan at 300,000,000f. The expenses on Mexico will amount to 210,000,000f. at the end of 1863. M. Fould says:—

It was hoped that a Mexican loan would lead to the repayment of our advances. But notwithstanding the confidence we have of seeing a regular government established in Mexico at no distant future, we must not allow the security of our finances to depend upon the liquidation of the debt of Mexico to France. We hope for a day when, by the reduction of the expenses and an improvement in the receipts, it will be possible to resume the operations of the sinking fund. If, in the future, the equilibrium of the budget be maintained—if the generous efforts of the Emperor assure peace, and the State prosper, our finances will permit us to reduce the taxes and realise the wishes of his Majesty.

Relative to a statement that a conference of the four great Powers and Sweden is proposed in London to settle the Dano-Germanic question, the *Mémorial Diplomatique* says:—"France is quite decided not to take part at present in any other conference than a European Congress. As for Austria and Prussia, their firm resolution of immediately proceeding to Federal execution in Holstein excludes all idea of their participation in a congress."

POLAND.

The arrests in Warsaw continue on a large scale, including many of the higher officials. It is said that M. Enoch, the Secretary of the State Council, has fallen into disgrace, and been deprived of all his functions. Padlewski (father of the well-known insurgent leader), and Ratsowski, have been shot.

The great transport of troops has interrupted the regular service of trains on the railways between Warsaw and the Prussian frontier.

The *Courrier de Wilna* announces that 900 political prisoners are confined at Kowno, some in the vast buildings of the military hospital, others in the small town-hall, in the postal establishment, or in the Augustine Convent.

The *Czas* of Cracow has been suspended for three months, on the proposal of the Imperial Procurator, by reason of its attitude on the Polish question.

The special correspondent of the *Times* has been expelled from Poland, in the politest manner possible. General Berg thought that the city would be better without a writer to chronicle Russian doings for the information of Europe, so he sent an officer to persuade the correspondent that any corner of the earth must be a more desirable place of residence than Warsaw for so cultivated a gentleman. Of course the hint was taken; and next morning General Berg carried his politeness so far as to send officers to see the correspondent safely seated in the train for St. Petersburg. This act implies a very damaging admission on the part of the Russian authorities, for it is not alleged that the expelled writer has been guilty

of exaggeration. On the contrary, he has taken a great deal of trouble to contradict the exaggerations published in the *Czas* and other Polish papers, and has done much to present the state of affairs in Poland before the world in the clear light of truth.

Colonel Miedlinkow, a Russian commandant, well known for his cruelties, has recently published a decree, from which the following is an extract:

Information is hereby given, that for each man found killed, wounded, or hanged, in any town or village, such town or village shall be required to pay, for a villager or townsman, 150 roubles; for an official or soldier, 1,500 roubles.

Prince Wittgenstein has issued a decree exceeding the above, if possible, in atrocity, the first article of which runs thus:

Every person in whose possession arms, or any other articles that may be used for wounding or murdering, are found, shall be brought to court-martial within twenty-four hours, and suffer the punishment of death.

The correspondent of the *Invalide Russe* says that in Lithuania "a new disarming of the inhabitants is taking place, and the houses of foresters, and all isolated houses in such situations as may be used as an asylum by the insurgents, are being made uninhabitable, their roofs being taken off, the stoves broken to pieces, and the windows and doors removed." A letter from Bucharest, in the *National Zeitung*, describes the formation of bands of Polish insurgents in several towns of Moldavia, and says that they have procured weapons from France. The Russians are constructing block-houses at the stations of the St. Petersburg, Warsaw, and Vienna railways. Patrols continually traverse the lines.

The official organ of the National party, the *Niepodleglosc*, publishes an appeal of the insurgent leader Kruk, exhorting the peasants to maintain the insurrection during the winter.

RUSSIA.

The *Invalide Russe* of St. Petersburg publishes a remarkable article from the pen of M. Hilferding. Either the liberty of the Russian press must be complete, or this article betokens some change of policy in Governmental circles. The Russian journal first examines the situation of affairs and the mission of Russia in Poland.

"We have," it is said, "five months of winter before us, and everyone knows how critical such a delay is for the kingdom of Poland. It ought to suffice to enable us to consolidate our rule in that country. But if Poland remains until the spring in the state of an un subdued prisoner, Western Europe may come to dispute with us for its possession, although it is very certain that after the struggle it would be a corpse, and not a living nation, which would remain in the conqueror's hands." The Russian writer then asks if it is really an advantage to Russia to keep this kingdom of Poland, which requires the constant employment of force. He says that every Russian who is the friend of his country would rejoice to see the moment when they could honourably renounce the possession of the kingdom of Poland.

"We understand," he adds, "that such a determination would be a shameful retrogression in the presence of insurrection within and pressure without, but we impatiently wait for the time when events and political combinations will permit us to abandon honourably and without any constraint a country which detests us, and which declares it wishes never to be reconciled to us. It would be much better for Russia to abandon a province which brings it no profit, than to have in it an infuriated enemy, and to pass for tyrants and executioners in the eyes of the whole world. The possession of Poland places Russia in the falsest of positions as a Slave power. With what happiness should we retire from it, and what liberty of action would result from this for our national policy!"

THE SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN QUESTION.

At a meeting of the Federal Diet on Friday, the representatives of Austria and Prussia pressed for execution in Holstein. The other German Governments represented in the committee desired simply occupation of the Duchy.

It is asserted that the Bavarian representative, Baron von der Pfordten, insists on the motion for the occupation of Holstein, as distinguished from Federal execution, being passed by the Federal Diet. Several Governments hesitate concerning the course they will pursue.

According to the *Cologne Gazette*, Federal execution in Holstein will be accomplished by means of 24,000 active troops, the Saxon contingent, and a reserve of 45,000—being the troops of Prussia, Austria, and Hanover.

100,000 muskets, intended for the Prince of Augustenburg, have been seized at Altona.

Count Rechburg has made in the Austrian Reichsrath a declaration substantially the same as that made by M. von Bismark at Berlin.

Austria and Prussia would not be at once released from the obligations of the London protocol—at any rate not in their quality of European Powers—by the mere fact that the German Confederation had not been invited to accede to the protocol. The engagements of Denmark must also be taken into consideration for the true understanding of the Holstein question. If, relying upon the Treaty of London, Denmark appeals to Austria and Prussia, both Powers are entitled to reply that Denmark must first fulfil the conditions upon which the legal obligation claimed is based. This case has now occurred. Austria and Prussia owe it to themselves, in view of the provocations of Denmark, to proceed without delay to carry into effect the execution already determined. With this measure the express reserve of the right to examine the hereditary succession may be unhesitatingly combined. At the first notice from Frankfort Austria is ready to order the

advance of the required number of troops upon the Lower Elbe. The point of right in the Succession question is not clearly and plainly visible. The subject needs thorough legal investigation, the matter in dispute depending upon a formal judicial decision. The deliberations of a conference cannot then extend beyond the boundary of the Federal territory, and the decision of a tribunal must not be anticipated by a one-sided proceeding against the *de facto* possessor. Count Rechburg further observed that the Duke of Augustenburg raised claims not only to Schleswig and Holstein, but also eventually to the countries under the rule of the House of Oldenburg. The possibility was therefore not excluded that Germany might plunge into a European war simply that an Augustenburg Duke might reign instead of a Glücksburg. The Government attached the utmost value to the combined action of Austria and Prussia. It was resolved to maintain respect for rights and treaties intact, and not less firmly determined to uphold the interests of Germany and of German kindred in the North with all its strength within legal limits.

Count Rechburg's reply was unfavourably received by the House, and called forth several attacks upon the discussion of the budget for foreign expenses.

The Austrian Government has notified to the Federal Diet that the troops intended to act as the reserve in carrying out execution in Holstein are ready. The command is to be given to General Gubbenz.

Prince Gortschakoff is said to have suggested to the four other great Powers that they should send special envoys to congratulate King Christian on his accession, and take that opportunity "of declaring that the five great Powers recognise the integrity of the Danish monarchy, but they also rely upon the engagements contracted by the late King of Denmark towards the Duchies." France, it is said, approves of the scheme.

Prince Frederick of Augustenburg has sent a note to the Danish Government requiring that the Danish troops should evacuate the Schleswig-Holstein territory, and that the Schleswig-Holstein troops in Denmark should return to the Duchies. Should the Danish Government not express its readiness to comply with these demands within fourteen days, the Prince will take the necessary steps to uphold the rights of the legitimate Government.

The Finance Minister of the Prince of Augustenburg has issued bonds for a loan bearing no interest, and the amount of which is not fixed. The bonds are for 25 thalers each. The Minister proposes to submit to the Holstein Estates the mode in which the loan is employed. The bonds circulate at Frankfort. A citizen of Frankfort has subscribed for 20,000 florins.

At a meeting of Schleswig-Holstein delegates in Hamburg on the 4th, resolutions were passed for general refusal to pay taxes, and for voluntary contributions to meet the expenses of the country.

DENMARK.

It has been resolved in the Council of State to regard any occupation of Holstein as a declaration of war.

The Danish Government has withdrawn the Royal patent of the 30th March.

The constitution voted by the Rigsgaad shortly before the death of the late King has been officially proclaimed in Schleswig in the name of King Christian IX.

A proclamation of King Christian IX. to the Holsteiners has been published, in which the King, after adverting to his accession to the throne as based on public European law, says he has resolved to put down insurrectionary movements with armed force. The King proceeds:—

The endeavours of many years to bring about an understanding upon the constitutional relations of the entire monarchy have not been attended with success. While, however, we intend to give to the territories belonging to the German confederacy an independent position in the kingdom, as has already been accomplished with the remaining portions of the monarchy, we hope that when Holstein finds herself contented in constitutional freedom, and the pretext for foreign interference is thus removed, she will voluntarily incline to nearer connection with the remainder of the country.

A proclamation has also been issued to the Lauenburgers, thanking them for not having been led away from their duty as subjects, in spite of overtures from without.

PRUSSIA.

In the Chamber of Deputies on the 2nd, the debate upon the Schleswig-Holstein question was continued. After seven hours' deliberation, the House passed, by 231 to 63 votes, the motion proposed by Herr Stavenhagen and Dr. Virchow in the name of the Liberal fraction, viz:—

The honour and the interests of Germany demand that all the German States should support the rights of the Hereditary Prince Frederick to the Duchies of Schleswig and Holstein.

The voting took place by calling over the names of the members. The motion of Herr von der Heydt and the amendment of Herr von Waldeck were each rejected by 268 to 37 votes. The Poles abstained from voting.

GREECE.

The Assembly is said to have rejected a motion for a vote of sympathy on account of the death of the late King of Denmark. King George had expressed his regret to a deputation of the National Assembly upon the decision come to with regard to the Ministers of King Otho, and hoped that the resolution would be withdrawn. It is stated that great agitation has been caused by the treaty stipulating for the demolition of the fortifications of Corfu.

MADAGASCAR.

The *Constitutionnel* publishes letters from Réunion to the 7th of November, stating that nothing certain

was known relative to King Radama, but the rumour that he was still living gained ground. The Queen had morganatically married the Prime Minister. Letters from the Mauritius add "that the Prime Minister was said to have been strangled after a violent outbreak raised by the nobles and great dignitaries."

INDIA, CHINA, AND AUSTRALIA.

A Calcutta telegram of Nov. 16 states—"Lord Elgin still lingers." The Bombay papers contain but few details respecting the illness of Lord Elgin. The *Times of India* says:—

His Excellency the Earl of Elgin, Viceroy and Governor-General of India, was on the 12th instant dangerously ill in the Punjab, and no hopes were entertained of his recovery. His lordship had been making double marches to reach the frontier at an early date. He over-exerted himself at the Rotaug Pass, which he crossed the whole way on foot. The severe fatigue rendered him so unwell that he was obliged to halt at Dhurmsalla. Telegrams from Lahore and Agra, dated 10th and 12th instant, have been received by us stating that his lordship was sinking, and that no hope was entertained of his recovery. The sad intelligence has been telegraphed to every part of the country, and has everywhere cast a gloom over society. The Governor in Council of Bombay has appointed Dr. Forbes, a commissioner, with instructions to devote his exclusive attention to questions regarding the improvement and extension of the cultivation of cotton, and the invention and manufacture of cotton-cleaning machinery, on a salary of 1,600 rupees per mensem. Dr. Forbes's operations are not restricted to any particular part of the presidency.

In several parts of India cotton-weavers have been reduced to great distress, and their condition has been lamentable in the extreme.

It is reported that Oude will be annexed to the North-West Provinces, in place of Saugor territories, separated last year.

The Rajah of Jeypore is to have the Star of India for his services in the late mutiny, which consisted principally of forwarding a detachment of his troops to Agra.

Mr. David Sassoon, the well-known Jew merchant in Bombay, has offered to Government the sum of Rs. 60,000 (6,000*l.*), on condition of Government giving an equal sum and a site on the Esplanade, for the erection of a suitable building for the Mechanics' Institution and for public meetings.

In two months from this time the railroad will be open from Calcutta to Delhi—a distance of fully 900 miles. "Calcutta," says the *Friend of India*, "is empty, and the East Indian Railway is almost unequal to the great passenger traffic which pours upwards to Benares and the north-west. Daily two trains of enormous length have been conveying holiday-makers from the muddy delta of Bengal over the uplands of Behar and on to the great cities of Northern India."

A telegram from Suez brings the following:—

SHANGHAI, Oct. 26.

Major Gordon captured Patolhon (?) and Seckadis (?) on the 12th, and Palimgow (?) on the 24th.

Advices received here from Japan state that affairs were quieter.

MELBOURNE, Oct. 24.

The transportation question is causing intense excitement.

Her Majesty's steamer *Curaçoa* has arrived at New Zealand.

General Cameron has successfully attacked the position of the Maories.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The Confederate steamer *Alabama*, when last heard of, was supposed to be cruising in the vicinity of Madras.

THE INSURRECTION IN CIRCASSIA.—Letters from the Caucasus state that the insurrection is spreading considerably. The Circassians have shot several Russian officers occupied in surveying the routes leading to Tehafki, where 15,000 insurgents are assembled.

THE GLASGOW STEAM-RAMS.—The *Baltic Gazette* announces that the house of Meir and Co., of Bremen, have purchased for the Prussian Government the two steam-rams which were built at Glasgow for the Confederates, and which had been stopped by the English Government. The price was a million thalers. "The news," says the *Gazette*, "has been received with much satisfaction, for, with these two steamers, there would be no reason to fear that the Danes could blockade the German coasts."

THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT AND M. THIERS.—At the last sitting of the Chamber, M. Thuillier, the Government commissioner, made the following remark:—"I pass to the Government of July, and, in doing so, I salute an illustrious man of whom the country is proud, whom I am happy to now see seated amongst us, and for whom the Government has had every imaginable consideration. (Interruption.) Yes, every consideration—and it is because I know that the fact is disputed that I now loudly proclaim it."

BIBLE EXAMINATIONS OF NATIVES OF INDIA.—The *Madras Observer* draws attention to the notification of prizes offered by the Bishop of Madras for the encouragement of sound and intelligent knowledge of the Holy Scriptures by native Christians. His lordship offers two prizes, one of thirty rupees and one of twenty rupees, for the best answerers in the vernacular Scriptures; and a further third prize of thirty rupees to the candidate who, having passed a creditable preliminary examination in the vernacular Scriptures, shall have also passed the best examination in the Greek Testament.

LIFE AT COMPIEGNE.—The *Nord* says that the first series of visitors to the Emperor and Empress of the

French at Compiègne were excessively dull, and that much amusement was produced by the second. The third series left Paris with the intention to walk in the footsteps of the guests who had immediately preceded them. There would appear to be but very little variation in the mode of life adopted at the Imperial residence. The guests are at liberty to pass the mornings according to their inclinations. They can breakfast alone, if so disposed, or with their Majesties at eleven o'clock, the gentlemen in frock-coats. A walk, or shooting, at which each person may be present or not, fills up the day. On the return of the visitors they dress *en grande toilette*, and dinner is served at half-past seven. After dinner there is a charade, a short play is enacted, or perhaps dancing. The ladies usually appear in a new toilette each evening, and some also each morning, but ordinarily only two changes of costume take place during the day. The exhibition of dresses is a great source of occupation with the ladies, and much care is taken to appear in a costume which has not been worn before. Oftentimes a bold but unfortunate stroke of originality is made, and one or two morning costumes ornamented with silver or gold lace are cited as having produced ill effects. The Empress, on the contrary, dresses very simply during the day, and has a fancy for wearing *de laine* dresses. In the evening her Majesty dresses very elegantly, but also as simply as possible, except as regards jewels. It is well known, however, that the Empress lends a charm to all which she wears.

RETURN OF THE REV. MR. BEECHER TO NEW YORK.—Mr. Beecher arrived in New York on Nov. 16. On the following day he was present at the annual festival of the Sun-day-school children at the Plymouth Church, and delivered a speech, in the course of which he said:—

My first experience of foreign travel was in Old England. We can all adopt the words, I think, of Cowper, and none so much as those who have been there: "England, with all thy faults, I love thee still." (Loud applause.) Nothing was more charming to me on leaving that arid ocean which some insane persons are pleased to praise—nothing struck me so much as the green fields, green trees, and exquisite lawns and plantations of England. And I wandered up and down through the Midland Counties, passing from east to west, as far as I had leisure and opportunity, with pleasure that knew no abatement, but that grew with the hours. From thence I went into France, by way of Havre. . . . When at last I struck the shore of England again, although I had received displeasure when I was there in the fore part of the summer, I breathed free, and said, "After all, thank God for England." (Applause.) For there, with their rugged faults, with their wrong-headedness, with the many things that just at this crisis offend us, that is, in the national character—not that which is as among the French, and many continental people, prepossessing and polished—but there is, after all, a foundation of truth and of manliness in the national character; and I felt that I came back among our own sort of men, though brought up under different circumstances and influences. I was glad to be back again in England, and although my own reception there was rather equivocal, it did not make any difference; and I think when I left England I liked her still better—not her wrong-headedness, not that corruption among her commercial classes which is the parallel of the corruption in our own country, in years past, by barbarous interests through slavery—but the better England. I appealed from England misinformed to England better informed—(applause)—and rested.

Court, Official, and Personal News.

On Saturday morning the Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Crown Prince and Princess of Prussia, Princess Helena, Princess Louise, and Prince Leopold, and the Princess Hohenlohe attended Divine service in the private chapel. The Rev. C. Tarter preached the sermon.

There have been several dinner parties at Windsor Castle during the week, but it does not appear that her Majesty was present on either occasion. The Prince and Princess of Wales were, however, present.

Sir Charles Wood and Sir John Lawrence arrived at Windsor Castle on Saturday. Sir Charles Wood had an audience of the Queen, and presented Sir John Lawrence, on his appointment as Viceroy of India. Sir John takes his departure for Marseilles on Wednesday evening, and at present Lady Lawrence is unable to accompany him.

One of the New Zealand chiefs, named Pomare, now on a visit to this country, accompanied by his wife and infant son, Albert Victor to whom the Queen has stood sponsor, arrived at Windsor Castle on Friday. The chief and his family were received by the Queen, and were much pleased with the interview which had graciously been accorded them. They left the castle in the afternoon.

Sir John Lawrence has appointed Dr. Charles Hathaway, who, as Inspector-General of Prisons in the Punjab, laboured with much success in ameliorating the state of the gaols in that province, to be his private secretary.

Sir J. Lawrence, the newly-appointed Viceroy of India, had an interview with Sir Charles Wood, at the India Office, on Monday. Later in the day Sir John had a long audience with the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Sir Charles Wood has nominated Sir George Russell Clerk, K.C.B., K.S.I., a member of the Indian Council, in the room of Sir John Lawrence.

The Earls of Malmesbury and Clarendon, Viscount Sidney, the Belgian Minister, Lord Wodehouse, and Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone, have been on a visit to Windsor Castle.

Sir Charles Wood, Bart., M.P., Sir Francis

Crossley, Bart., M.P., Mr. Stansfeld, M.P., and Major Waterhouse, M.P., have accepted invitations to be present at the banquet to be given to Mr. Crossley in the Halifax Town-hall on the 16th inst.

Mr. Spooner, M.P., has announced his intention to retire from the representation of North Warwickshire, in consequence of his advanced age and increasing infirmities. The honourable gentleman is in his 81st year.

Lord Wodehouse is about to proceed to Copenhagen to congratulate King Christian IX. on his accession to the throne. He will be furnished with instructions from the British Government relating to the affairs of the Danish monarchy at the present time.

We (*Daily News*) understand that Sir Rutherford Alcock, our Minister to Japan, leaves for his post on the 28th inst.

Law, &c.

REMARKABLE WILL CASE.—A remarkable will case has occupied the Court of Exchequer in Dublin for three days. The most eminent counsel have been engaged in it on both sides. Nominally the plaintiff is a priest, and the defendant a widowed mother, but in reality it is a contest between the two Churches which have fought so many battles in this country. The priest is the Rev. Mr. Keon, who was called in to attend a man named Maguire, for the purpose of administering to him the last rites of the Church. Maguire was an iron-moulder, who was employed a good deal in England. Although a Roman Catholic, he was very inattentive to his religious duties, and was seldom known to go to mass. About eleven years ago he married a Protestant, the ceremony having been performed by a Protestant clergyman in a Protestant church. Their children were baptized into the Roman Catholic Church, the mother herself presenting them at the chapel for that purpose. During the absence of the parents in England, the eldest child was left in Dublin, in charge of Mrs. Maguire's father and mother, who brought her up as a Protestant. After their return she sent them all to a Protestant Sunday-school, with their father's full knowledge and consent. Early in April he was attacked with valvular disease of the heart, and his case being hopeless, the Rev. Mr. Keon was sent for, at the defendant's suggestion, to give him the last rites of his Church. He visited Maguire on the 24th of April, and having discovered in confession that his children were attending Protestant schools he refused to give him absolution until he signed a will consigning them to his custody, to be educated as Roman Catholics. A document of that purport was drawn up by the plaintiff, and brought by him on the 27th of April to the dying man, who signed it in the presence of two witnesses provided by the priest and strangers to him. His wife was absent at the time, and never heard of this will until soon after her husband's death, and while she was still nursing the youngest child she received an attorney's letter requiring her to surrender the children to the Rev. Mr. Keon and two others who had been *pro forma* joined with him in the trust. With this demand she refused to comply, and entrusted the children to a charitable association. The priest sought to get possession of the three children by means of a writ of *habeas corpus*, but the return made to the writ by the mother was deemed satisfactory, and the court refused to enforce his claim till the validity of the will should be established. It was tried at the last assizes of the county of Kildare, but the jury could not agree to a verdict. It has been now tried again, with the same result, in Dublin. The jury consisted of eight Protestants and four Roman Catholics. It is stated that ten were for finding the will null and void, and that the other two expressed their determination to sit there till Christmas rather than agree to a verdict against the priest.

HEAVY DAMAGES.—In the Court of Queen's Bench, on Wednesday, a young man named Frankel recovered 2,000*l.* damages from the London and North-Western Railway Company for injuries sustained by him while travelling on an omnibus employed by them at Matlock. The omnibus began racing with a rival vehicle, by which the complainant was thrown out, and he appeared in court a mere wreck of humanity.

SMITHFIELD CLUB CATTLE SHOW.—On Monday the Smithfield Club's Fat Cattle Show commenced at the Agricultural Hall, Islington. In number of entries the show is one of the best which has yet been held under the auspices of the club. Taken as a whole, however, the animals exhibited are up to the mark of former years. . . . Wales, the Duc de Brabant, and the King of Prussia visited the show in the afternoon. At two o'clock it was thrown open to the public. Although the charge for admission was only one penny, the number of visitors was enormous, and are now admitted at the same rate.

THE MANSE A KENZIE AND ORMEAU.—On Monday in the evening at the Manse a Presbyterian to exercise the question v. ever, reve the conti founded sufficient names sheriff

and repellantly from intercourse which it only requires good sense and a reasonable measure of self-knowledge to make use of and find pleasure in. It is an observation as old as Menander that people in humble circumstances are apt to be over-suspicious, and ready to take offence at everything, and think themselves slighted. Not only is this so, but it is natural that persons so feeling should look upon this very foible of theirs as a virtue. Foible as it is, it is yet an instrument of self-defence. We should, however, have liked "Janet's Home" better, if the home had not turned out after all—as is somewhat novelistically revealed on the discovery of some suppressed will or other—to be Morfamawr, with its handsome seat, its wealth-producing mines, and its extensive lands. Why will novelists insist on endowing all their heroines, not only with lovers, and those eventually husbands, to their hearts' content,—which we all know they deserve, and would quarrel with any novelist who refused to mete out political justice accordingly,—but with baronet's mansions and fortunes of ten thousand a year? We admire our favourite of lady-novelists, Miss Mulock, among other good reasons, because she does not succumb to this temptation.

We are glad the writer has not thought it necessary to swell out her story to the orthodox three volumes. It is a good thing that that silly tradition has been of late broken down. Even as it is, perhaps some of our readers may think that for so quiet a story, it is long enough. We feel confident, however, that they will not in the end complain of our introducing them to "Janet's Home."

THE MAGAZINES.

The pressure on our space at this season forbids more than the briefest possible notice of the magazines of the month. This is of the less importance as we are accustomed to report their promise and part performance rather fully at the beginning of the year.

Blackwood opens with a poem, "The Boatman," by "Pisistratus Caxton,"—which is one of the best of Sir Bulwer Lytton's later poems, and evidently influenced by his familiarity with Schiller. "The Wigtown Martyrs" is a return to a debated subject; and maintains that the women never were drowned at all; and hopes Principal Tulloch will not be disappointed to find that so great a crime was actually not committed:—but, though we admit the difficulties raised, we do not think Mr. Napier's case established. An able paper on "The Navies of England and France, from a French Point of View," discusses a recent work of M. Xavier Raymond, which appeared originally in the "Revue des Deux Mondes"; and finds occasion to congratulate the writer on doing "justice to the greatness of England's maritime strength, and to the excellence of her liberal institutions." Some half-dozen "Books on the American War" form the text for an article by a writer who confesses that he will "be disappointed" if he do "not shortly hear that the Confederates have 'achieved a decisive success' at Chattanooga:—and his disappointment takes place, no doubt, to-day (Dec. 5th). "Tony Butler" works out in strength. "The Chronicles of Carlingford" begin a little to hang fire; and the complications of "The Perpetual Curate" have the air of being invented, and in some sort are too trivial. Other articles we pass by.

Fraser engages us first by an "Episode in the History of the Modern English Church"—no less than an attempt, in 1772-4, to obtain from the House of Commons the liberation of the clergy from subscription to the Thirty-nine Articles. That it calls attention to the works of Archdeacon Blackburne, of that day, is to us a reason for rejoicing; but that the movement in the House was really one for "spiritual freedom" we deny. The episode will, if studied in original sources as well as in *Fraser*, be suggestive to others besides the "thoughtful Churchmen now bent on procuring deliverance from the tyranny of formularies!" We rub our eyes—but it is so. Deliverance from the tyranny of formularies?—nothing easier: but the worthy "thoughtful" ones means—*stipend without stipulation, reward without responsibility*:—that's the desired "deliverance." The "Reforms of the Future" requires quite another sort of notice than our brief glance at magazine contents permits. It gives Church questions the prominent place; but shows little understanding of the possibilities of their treatment in the present state of religious conviction, when it not only repudiates the reform of the Liberation Society, but "espouses precisely the opposite pole;" and maintains that it is the "duty" of the Legislature to retain *all parts* of the nation "within the organisation of the Church." Independents and Baptists are admitted to be perhaps hopeless; but if only the Church will show herself "a pure-hearted lover of good men and goodness, irrespective of abstract doctrines," it is believed that she can "give a death-blow to sectarianism." It is admitted that "religion is as well provided for among the Free States (America) by voluntary liberality, as among ourselves by the system of endowment"; but voluntarism is itself "evil to a nation," because it "must be sectarian." That is to say, Voluntarism nourishes and expresses convictions: which *Fraser*, as the apostle of religious indifference, cannot abide. An article on "Women and Scepticism," into the main stream of which we shall not enter, has this idea of a Christian woman,

"that she ought to believe in, and pray to God, and 'believe in a future state'! In our time, it is averred, 'there cannot be said to be any general consent as to theological doctrines except in small and bigoted sects whose fanatical intolerance and narrow-mindedness would render their opinions worthless, even if they did not contradict each other.' Again, 'the use of the doctrine of the Trinity is not to satisfy curiosity, nor to form the ground on which definitive practical questions should be decided, but to indicate to those who want to pray to God that form of prayer which, upon full consideration, appears to be most worthy and least inadequate'—and 'there is very little difference between an average Unitarian and an average member of the Church of England'! We wish our readers to know what "Fraser" now is: and even these passages make it plain, taken without recent articles which have called forth our tempered condemnation, that it has gone over to some such side as that of the *Westminster Review*. The lighter articles this month—especially that on the character of Polish women—are good.

In *Macmillan* three more chapters of Mr. Henry Kingsley's "Hillyars and Burtons" thoroughly engage us to pursue the story:—he never wrote with more vitality, or, as far as we can yet see our way, with more personal sense of the reality of his invention. The "Letters of a Competition Wallah: No. 7," have a peculiar and sad interest at the moment, the "Climate of Calcutta, with Serious Inferences" being the subject. These papers are said to be by the son of Sir Charles Trevelyan,—who, we think, rather distinguished himself to the few by a humorous and satirical poem published whilst at Cambridge. Miss Rossetti gives us a delicate lyric, "One Day." The editor has got fairly into his "Recollections"; and gives us a most interesting account of the late Rev. Dr. James Kidd, of Aberdeen; from which we would take many bits of anecdote had we room. *Macmillan* has wonderfully renewed its spirit and interest. There are five articles besides those named,—all attractive or solidly good.

The *Victoria* has a rather grave article for an eminently lady's magazine,— "Shall we conquer China?"—ably argued on all sides, and ending with the conclusion, "India heartily conciliated, civilised, and 'Christian,'—and then!—As to the present, 'What then ought we to do? . . . Guard the treaty ports 'until order has been restored, outlaw every Englishman 'who takes service in China without the written permission of the Embassy, and negotiate with the Government for the one bit of soil that would enable us to 'influence China without being dragged into incessant 'extensions of territory—the island of Chusan.' A good article on "La Grand Chartreuse and the 'Waldensian Valleys,' as the mountain fastnesses of Romanism and Protestantism, a review of Mr. Froude's "Reign of Elizabeth," and continuations by Mr. Trollope and Mr. Senior, make up the number.

Christian Work in the World has one of the most interesting numbers that has appeared. It is still the periodical we most prize for Sabbath reading in the Christian family; and might be profitably used by those who conduct missionary prayer-meetings, &c., in stirring up an intelligent and devout interest in the labours of the whole catholic church, such as our congregations seldom feel or can feel.—Our *Own Fireside* grows in interest, has abundant variety, and is particularly marked by fitness to the Christian family. This number adds to the attraction of Christmas articles by the editor and Mrs. Sewell, a simple, pleasing piece of Christmas music by Mr. Havergal.—The *Eclectic* reviews Dr. Vaughan's new "Revolutions" and Mr. Rogers' "Life of Howe,"—and has articles on Dante—ably written,—and on the 13th chapter of Matthew and its interpreters—open to some considerable difference of opinion. Most readers ought to like best the article which so appropriately and admiringly calls attention to Mr. Allingham's "Lawrence Bloomfield in Ireland," lately published in *Fraser*,—a genuine poem, and full of present practical instruction. The *Eclectic* is to commence its sixtieth year of publication—having seen former changes—by yet another change; and will appear as "The Eclectic and Congregational Review, edited by the Rev. Paxton Hood." "All that it is it will continue to be," yet enlarged to admit questions bearing "more directly" on the polity and working of Congregationalism." It claims to have so far "a representative character" as the "advocate and exponent of Nonconformist Congregational principles," that "it would be affectation not to admit" that relation; which, therefore, is henceforth to be "embodied in its title." We are not slow to praise, or loth to value, the *Eclectic*: but, as to this "representative character"—are all agreed!—The *Christian Spectator* claims special attention by the variety and power of the contents of its double number. Let us particularise "Heathen London," "Three more Chapters on Minor Moralities," "Pressensé's Review of Rénan," "A Solitary Tour," and lastly, the Editor's "Christmas Piece," which we are unable to notice as it deserves, owing to certain allusions it contains in which the Editor of this journal is too directly interested. The *Spectator's* old friends should consider the excellence of this number as constituting a demand for future support, that shall place it second to none of the religious monthlies in circulation and success.

The *Cornhill* we reserve for Mr. Tennyson's sake,—

for more leisurely notice than we can give to him at the present moment.

The Leisure Hour. Vol. XII., 1863.—*The Sunday at Home*. Vol. X., 1863. (Religious Tract Society.) Many and warm as have been the praises bestowed on these publications, they never deserved higher commendation or more generous encouragement than at the present time. In variety of contents, in breadth of interest, in unexceptionable character, in serviceableness to family and social religion, there are no periodicals to be compared with them, for the classes they specially address. Their literary character has certainly been higher during the past year than in some former years; yet their popular adaptation has not been less. The tales are still the weakest point in them, rising little above the most conventional religious fiction. The African Missionary story is the best in the present volumes. The woodcut illustrations are generally good, as well as abundant; and some exceedingly admirable. The coloured plates, twelve in each volume, will be attractive to the young, and to those whose artistic taste is but little educated. A few are really pleasing and truthful,—especially Gibraltar and Mont Blanc in the one volume, and the Pyramids in the other: but the figure pictures, and the landscapes bearing the name of Evans, are far from satisfactory. Neither, however, claims to be an art-journal. We shall be glad if our willing notice of these volumes gains new readers for them in the coming year.

(Continued in the Supplement.)

LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

The Baptist Missionary Society have just issued a set of very beautiful pictorial cards illustrating incidents and scenes connected with their labours in different parts of the world; the pictures are printed in colours by Mr. Dicks, and published by Mr. Elliot Stock, of Paternoster-row.

The *Eclectic Review* is to appear in future as the *Eclectic and Congregational Review*, edited by the Rev. Paxton Hood.

Mr. A. Gladstone, a nephew of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, has made his *début* as a novelist in a tale of real life, entitled, "The Man of the Hour."

The Duke de Luynes, say the French journals, is on the point of starting on a scientific excursion as far as the banks of the Dead Sea.

M. Miani is organising another expedition for the discovery of the actual sources of the Nile.

Dr. Charles Mackay, who has been in England for some few weeks, is about to return to New York to resume his correspondence for the *Times*.

Mr. W. H. Russell is about to publish, under the title of "Canada: its Defences, Condition, and Resources," an account of his travels in that country during the winter of 1861.

In an advertisement for 1864 the proprietors of *Good Words* state that the periodical has attained a monthly sale of one hundred and twenty thousand copies! During next year works by Isaac Taylor, the Rev. Dr. C. J. Vaughan (vicar of Doncaster), Mrs. H. Wood, Mr. P. H. Gosse, Dr. Norman Macleod, Dean Alford, Sir John Herschel, and Dr. Guthrie will appear; and, in addition to these, there will be contributions from almost all the other authors whose writings have helped to raise *Good Words* to its present position.

LORD BROUGHAM AND THE NATIONAL SHAKESPEARE COMMITTEE.—The pleasant but erroneous story that Lord Brougham thought Shakespeare an overrated man has been effectually contradicted by the noble lord himself, who has expressed his readiness to co-operate with the promoters of the Shakespeare Tercentenary Celebration. The laughter of the clubs is therefore at an end, as far as the ex-chancellor's estimate of the poet is concerned. Having thus joined the committee, his lordship will forthwith be placed amongst the vice-presidents of the association as a distinguished representative of literature, law, and science, and as the official chief of a great national seat of learning.—Amongst the vice-presidents of the committee are the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, the Duke of Devonshire, the Earl of Carlisle, Earl Stanhope, Sir E. B. Lytton, and Alfred Tennyson. The names of the committee include some of the most eminent in politics, literature, science, and art. The following Dissenting ministers are on the committee—the Revs. Dr. Angus, H. Allon, T. Aveling, W. Brock, J. B. Brown, B.A., H. Stowell Brown, G. B. Bubier, H. R. Reynolds, M.A., J. Stoughton, and Dr. Vaughan.

DWELLINGS FOR THE POOR.—The Court of Common Council have unanimously agreed to appropriate ground in Farringdon-road, and to erect dwellings thereon for the labouring poor, at an estimated cost of 20,000*l*.

EARLY CLOSING MOVEMENT.—A *soirée* in connection with this movement took place in the Hanover-square Rooms on Thursday evening. Lord Radstock presided; and speeches on the advantages of early closing and the evils of prolonged labour were delivered by his lordship, Rev. S. Minton, Mr. B. Shaw, Mr. John Macgregor, Mr. T. Hughes, and other gentlemen. The proceedings of the evening were varied by a performance of vocal music.

Miscellaneous News.

THE CHARING-CROSS RAILWAY.—On Tuesday, Dec. 1st, the first train passed over the Charing-cross Railway from London-bridge to the new station, now nearly completed, on the old site of Hungerford Market at Charing-cross. The trip proved entirely satisfactory. It is expected that the line will be opened for public traffic in a fortnight from that time.

A MUNIFICENT GIFT.—Mr. William Jackson, M.P., has generously determined to enhance the value of the Prince Consort memorial, which he offered to erect at Birkenhead, by building, instead of a simple monument, industrial ragged-schools, at a cost, including the site, of 7,000*l*. Mr. Jackson proposes to call the institution "The Albert Refuge."

THE THAMES EMBANKMENT.—On Saturday a number of men commenced driving the first foundation piles immediately opposite the late residence of the Duke of Buccleuch. Operations were also commenced for the embankment on the Southern side, which will be carried out simultaneously with that on the Middlesex side of the river.

SURREY CHAPEL POPULAR LECTURES.—The Rev. Newman Hall delivered on Monday night the first of a course of lectures on "English History," which embraced the story of the early Britons and the Roman occupancy of the island. The lecture was illustrated by diagrams expressive of the manners, customs, &c., of the people of that early period, and gave great satisfaction to an intelligent and appreciative audience. Next Monday the Rev. Thomas Hill, of Cheshunt, lectures on "Christmas and Christmas Customs."

THE NEW RAILWAY PROJECTS.—No less than 300 railway bills stand for adjudication in the course of the approaching Parliamentary Session. With regard to the metropolitan schemes alone it is roughly estimated that every metropolitan railway will require eleven acres of land for road and station; and surveyors say that this land is worth, with the buildings that must be bought to be destroyed, something approaching a million an acre. The Charing-cross and City branch of the railway which has already extended itself into the "centre of the metropolis," has cost about a million and a-half a mile, passing through the least valuable part of the metropolis. The sums required to carry into effect these schemes of imaginative engineers and zealous solicitors are (says the *Times*) beyond all numeration.

MR. DISRAELI'S LEGACY.—When the right hon. gentleman was Chancellor of the Exchequer, he received a very quaint letter in a strange hand, in which the writer, Mrs. Brydges Willyams (who was herself of Jewish extraction) inquired whether he was not descended from a Spanish family. The great man threw the letter away among his waste paper: some days afterwards, however, a friend, copying the letter, took it up and asked if it had not been answered. Finding that no acknowledgment had been made, Mr. Benjamin Disraeli, yielding to persuasion, gratified the ancient lady with a letter under his own hand. A correspondence ensued, and then the right hon. gentleman was invited to Devonshire, and for ever afterwards he always managed to spend a few weeks in Torquay every winter with his strangely-acquired friend. As he is the executor under the deceased lady's will, he has given instructions for the sale of her furniture and effects at Mount Braddon.—*Western Times*.

M.P.'s ON PUBLIC AFFAIRS.—Four members of Parliament—Sir Alexander Hood, a Conservative, and Mr. Alcock, Mr. Locke King, and Mr. Leveson Gower, Liberals—have been making speeches in which they have expressed their approval of the Government's decision on the subject of the proposed European Congress. Sir A. Hood said he hoped that all parties would unite in supporting her Majesty's Ministers in the course they had taken in declining the Emperor's invitation; for, in his opinion, a Congress which should deal with the existing troubles of Europe would "settle the preliminaries of war, and not of peace." Mr. Sturt, one of the Conservative members for Dorsetshire, has confidentially informed his friends that Lord Palmerston "is on the go," and that there is a "good time coming." His colleague, Mr. Seymour, however, professes himself to be of an entirely different opinion, but hopes—in a manner that evinces his doubts—that if we are to have another Conservative Government, we shall have one that will really act on Conservative principles.

HOSPITAL FOR CONSUMPTION AND DISEASES OF THE CHEST, BROMPTON.—On Thursday last, a quarterly court of the governors of this charity was held in the board-room of the hospital, the Rev. Sir Henry Foulis, Bart., in the chair. The report stated that advantage had been taken of the favourable weather, and of the modified demand for admission incidental to the later months of summer, to effect the necessary repairs and cleaning of the eastern half of the building. The great increase in the number of applicants waiting admission had induced the committee, at a much earlier period of the year than usual, to reopen the extra beds, and thus to increase the hospital accommodation to 210 beds. The committee acknowledged with deep thankfulness the accession of much liberal help during the past quarter, including a kind gift of 250*l*. from an anonymous benefactor; but they felt compelled still to appeal to, and to rely upon the continued aid of the public, not only to provide the means of sustaining their large and unendowed

establishment, but likewise of meeting the increased expenses of the coming winter. It had been found necessary to make considerable alterations in the out-patients' department, owing to greater space being required for the growing number of patients; whose comfort and well-being had been further added to by a new and complete system of ventilation, by extraction. It was also stated that the Prince of Wales had graciously signified to them that it would afford him "great gratification" to fill the position of patron to the hospital, which had been occupied for so many years by the late Prince Consort. The following legacies were announced: Richard Owen, Esq., 1,000*l*. consols.; Charles Maccabe, Esq., 100*l*. duty free. The number of in-patients admitted since the 6th August, was 289; discharged more or less benefited, 227; died, 46; and new out-patients' cases, 2,067; being an increase compared with the previous quarter of 650. The report was adopted, and the recommendations of the committee unanimously agreed to.

THE NEGRO'S PLACE IN NATURE.—At the meeting of the Anthropological Society, on Tuesday evening, the discussion on Dr. Hunt's paper, "On the Negro: his Place in Nature," was resumed, and on this occasion several advocates of the black man appeared to raise him from the low scale of being in which he was placed at the former meeting. The first speaker was Mr. Carter Blake, the honorary secretary, who supported the views of Dr. Hunt by an elaborate examination of the anatomical evidence of the structure of the negro's skull, and he contended that the form of the skull and of the teeth clearly indicated that the negro belonged to a lower race than the European. Several speakers then rose, one after the other, to defend the negro. They contended that though inferior to the European generally in intellectual capacity, he is nevertheless capable of great improvement, and of attaining a considerable degree of civilisation. In the first place, Mr. Bovey Pusey adduced Toussaint, in Hayti, as an instance of a pure negro who had exhibited high qualifications as a statesman. He was followed by Mr. Dingle, who quoted largely from Mungo Park, to prove that the negro possesses great powers of mental cultivation and of manufacturing skill, and is only in a degree less intellectual than Europeans. The experience of Liberia was advanced as confirmatory of the opinion that the negro may be educated and become a moral and religious member of society. Mr. Pendergast next took up the negro's cause, and read a long essay in vindication of the black man's claim. Mr. Miles, a native of the United States of America, also took part with the negro, and in a satirical vein pointed out that the superiority claimed by white men was founded on their power to tyrannise over the blacks, and that by the same reasoning it might be proved that the ancient Britons were an inferior race to the Romans, by whom they had been conquered. Mr. Burke brought up the rear of the negro's defence, and contended, from the great variation in classes and races inhabiting all countries, that the gradations of inferiority are so blended together that no specific differences can be distinguished. On the other hand, Mr. Reid mentioned some of his experiences in Sierra Leone to show that the degree of civilisation attained in Liberia is of a very limited character. Dr. Hunt replied, and the meeting then adjourned to the 15th instant.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE IN PEKIN.—The following is an extract from a letter written by Dr. Lockhart at Pekin, on Sept. 7. It is a curious illustration of the mode in which law and justice are still administered in the Chinese capital:—"I have mentioned to you the case of General Shing-paou. He was the man who ordered the execution of Major Brabazon and Abbé Luc at Pa-le-chau. He was one of Sooshun's (the executed Regent's) clique in 1861, has been with part of the army in command, but accused of all sorts of crimes, which crimes are, however, part of a Chinese general's common nature, his chief crime being that he was of the Regency clique. He was brought to Pekin a prisoner, and kept many months in the Board of Punishment prison. Sometimes it was said he was to be executed, and at others that he would be allowed to purchase his life. The Empress Dowager wished him killed, because the Regency clique accused her of adultery. Prince Kung wanted to save him; so on August 31st a high officer was sent to him from the Court to say he was permitted to hang himself, and he at once did so, and is dead. After death long needles or narrow daggers were thrust into his body to make sure that he was dead. The Government dare not send him to the cabbage-market or public execution-ground, lest he should be rescued by his friends and adherents, and so they let him make his own exit, and it is less disgraceful to die thus than by beheading. The body is placed in a litter, hoisted over the wall of the prison, and given to his friends, who can bury him with all pomp. No corpse is allowed to go through the doors of the Board of Punishment. Low criminals are shoved through a hole in the wall; high men are hoisted over the wall."—*Patriot*.

Gleanings.

The Crystal Palace dividend is to be at the rate of two per cent.

What article is it that is never used more than once in England?—Letter A, of course.

Madame Grisi has been singing at Florence for the benefit of the wounded Poles.

Mr. Maguire, M.P., has been re-elected Mayor of Cork by a large majority.

The notorious Mr. Windham has made an assignment for the benefit of his creditors.

The next meeting of the Social Science Congress will be held at York.

Vegetable ivory, in contact with concentrated sulphuric acid, takes a splendid red colour, almost equal to magenta.

A wit once asked a peasant what part he played in the great drama of life. "I mind my own business," was the reply.

The agreement for the erection of the International Exhibition building in the Alexandra Park has been signed by Messrs. Kelk and Lucas.

A Brighton paper mentions a rumour which prevailed in that town of the probable retirement of Mr. Coningham from Parliament. The reason alleged is ill-health.

"Do you go to school?" inquired a passer-by of a little boy in St. Giles's. "No." "Can you read?" "No." "What can you do, then?" "Vy, drink a quatern o' gin standing on my head."

The cause of the American war has at length been ascertained. Brigham Young says it is a "visitation from heaven upon the people, because they killed the prophet of God, J. Smith, jun."

At the Central Criminal Court, on Wednesday, two garroters were each sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment and to receive thirty lashes. The punishment of flogging is administered under the act passed last session.

The largest locomotive in the world has just been built for the Philadelphia and Reading Railway. It has twelve driving-wheels, and weighs more than 100,000 pounds.

Wen a fellah presses yo varry mitch ta cum an see him, but sez ee's soary there's nowt but cowl meet a t'haase, yo may set it daan at wonce at his meat an hiz feelings are abaot at even temperature. Tommy Toddles's *Olmeneac*.

PURE SYMPATHY.—Tellin a chap at pashunce iz a rare vartue wen ee's varry neer crazed wit tooith. wark.—*Ibid*.

A BIT OF QUIET CHAFF.—Axin a chap wat time it iz wen yo naw hiz watch iz off tal hiz uncle's.—*Ibid*.

SPENDIN HIZ STRENGTH FUR NOWT.—A bow-legg'd fellah tryin ta stop a pig e a entry.—*Ibid*.

"Ther's moar e thee ner thah's willing ta tak tul," az t'fatthur sed tut lad wen e tumbled ower sick thro smookin on t'sly.—*Ibid*.

Nivver be seen speiking tul a poar relashun it public street. Nowt let's a man daan sa mitch as poverty an shabby cloaz. Even a roag may get on iv ee's weel dress'd; an ther's lots a decent foaks at can't, coz they ware nowt but fustyun. Remember it's fine fetthurs at make fine berds.—*Ibid*.

A wicked editor says that at a church some people sometimes clasp their hands so closely in prayer time that they are unable to get them open when the contribution-box comes round.

A pompous Englishman, who had a good deal of money, lately said to an ex-ambassador, "H—, I want a good investment. What do you do with your money?" "Why," replied his excellency, "I bought an umbrella with the last I had."

STRAWBERRIES IN DECEMBER.—Some fine specimens of strawberries, grown in the open air at Stillorgan Glebe, the residence of the Rev. Thomas Gray, were left at our office on Friday. They are as large as those in July, and we understand that a considerable crop of them is still in the ground.—*Dublin Express*.

Rather unexpected was the reply of the urchin, who on being arraigned for playing marbles on Sunday, and sternly asked, "Do you know where those little boys go who play marbles on Sunday?" replied innocently, "Yes; some on 'em goes to the common, and some on 'em goes down by the side of the river."

The St. Louis papers say that the new hotel in that city, the Lindell, will be the largest in the world, with the exception of the Hotel de la Paix. To build it alone has cost nearly two million dollars. It will accommodate fifteen hundred people. A boarder, desiring a walk before breakfast, can travel through the entries an hour and a quarter without twice going over the same floor.

A Quaker came before two judges at an assize as a witness, when he made frequent use of the words *also* and *likewise*. "Prithee, man," cried one of their lordships, "why do you vary these words so often: have not they both the same signification?" "No, truly," said the Quaker, "their meaning is very different; as for example, Sergeant Bettsworth is a judge upon this bench; thou art one *also*, but not *likewise*."

THE LITERARY PROFESSION IN ENGLAND AND WALES.—According to the census of 1851 there were 1,504 male and 109 female "authors, editors, and writers" in England and Wales. The census returns for 1861 revealed but a very slight increase—namely 1,528 male and 145 female "authors, editors, and writers." Thus male authorship, as a distinct profession, appears to be stationary, while the only augmentation of the literary profession is due to the introduction of an increased number of ladies into its ranks.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Friday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending Wednesday, Dec. 2.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued .. £27,084,390 Government Debt £11,015,100
Other Securities .. 3,634,900
Gold Coin & Bullion 12,434,390

£27,084,390

£27,084,390

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital £14,558,000 Government Securities .. £10,710,390
Reserve .. 8,184,193 Other Securities .. 21,173,559
Public Deposits .. 7,234,891 Notes .. 6,061,765
Other Deposits .. 12,924,545 Gold & Silver Coin 614,685
Seven Day and other Bills .. 663,107

£38,559,739

£38,559,739

Dec. 3, 1863.

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Timely precaution.—Who can with certainty predict the ultimate issue of a disordered stomach if it be neglected? Fever, diarrhoea, and even cholera, are too often the penalties of such neglect. It should be everywhere known that Holloway's Pills effectually prevent these disastrous consequences. This purifying medicine should be taken at once to stem the formidable symptoms, or the opportunity of doing so may be lost for ever, and a few days' delay even may be fatal. Each succeeding dose gradually regulates the stomach, liver, and bowels. When the weather is sultry the system is weakened, and malaria abundant: the digestion of its organs should be kept in order by treatment so simple, yet so productive of comfort, security, and strength.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

GERVIS.—Nov. 28, at 12, St. Thomas's-street, Southwark, the wife of Henry Gervis, M.D., of a son.
EDWARDS.—Dec. 1, at Harlow, Essex, the wife of the Rev. F. Edwards, B.A., of a son.
GILFILLAN.—Dec. 5, at Aberdeen, the wife of the Rev. T. Gilfillan, of a daughter.
HARDIN.—Dec. 5, at Towcester, Northampton, the wife of the Rev. H. Hardin, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

BAX—SMITH.—Nov. 24, at Manchester, by the Rev. J. Gwyther, Mr. William Thomas Bax, of that city, to Fanny, youngest daughter of the late Mr. William Smith, farmer, Tinsington, Derbyshire.
CHARTERIS—ANDERSON.—Nov. 24, at Aberdeen, the Rev. Archibald Hamilton Charteris, of Park Church, Glasgow, to Catherine Morice, elder daughter of Sir Alexander Anderson, Lord Provost of Aberdeen.

PIERCY—SHEPHERDSON.—Nov. 20, at the Congregational Chapel, Sheffield, by the Rev. B. Grant, Mr. George Piercy, of Driffield, to Harriet Ann, daughter of Mr. W. Shepherdson, of Sheffield.

McLIESH—DOWNING.—Nov. 29, at Craven Chapel, Marshall-street, Golden-square, by the Rev. John Graham, Mr. John McLiesh, of Belfast, to Mary Ann Hamlin, eldest daughter of Mr. J. Downing, of South Molton-street, Oxford-street.

DAVIES—CATTLE.—Nov. 30, at the Independent Chapel, Gornal, by the Rev. S. M. Coombs, Mr. W. Davies, of Woodside, to Elizabeth Cattle, of the same place.

MARSHALL—DRAKE.—Nov. 30, at Queen-street Chapel, Leeds, by the Rev. W. Thomas, Mr. John Marshall, to Miss Hannah Drake, both of Leeds.

ALLIN—EDWARDS.—Dec. 1, by special licence, at Redland Congregational Church, Bristol, by the Rev. U. J. Thomas, George Allin, Esq., of St. Alban's, Herts, to Martha Wood Allin, only daughter of the Rev. J. Edwards, of Bristol.

LINNETT—ALLEN.—Dec. 2, at the New Chapel, College-street, Northampton, by the Rev. J. T. Brown, Mr. J. W. Linnett, of Rotherham, Yorkshire, to Maria Louisa, eldest daughter of Mr. James Allen.

KAYE—STONIER.—Dec. 2, at Broughton Congregational Church, by the Rev. J. Muncaster, Walter, eldest son of Mr. W. Kaye, to Rhoda, daughter of Mr. George Stonier, all of Manchester. No cards.

PICKFORD—BROOKS.—Dec. 2, at the Independent Chapel, Little Lever, by the Rev. E. Pickford, brother of the bridegroom, Mr. Eli Pickford, of Little Lever, to Mary, only daughter of Mr. John Brooks, Darcy Lever.

ROOTH—KILVINGTON.—Dec. 2, at the Congregational Church, Jamaica-row, Bermondsey, by the Rev. Geo. Rose, John Sampson, eldest son of William Rooth, Esq., of Chesterfield, to Annie, youngest daughter of the late Henry Kilvington, Esq., of St. Ann's-terrace, Brixton-road, and formerly of Ilford, Essex.

SHORROCK—CHEETHAM.—Dec. 2, at Chadderton, by the Rev. S. G. Green, B.A., President of Rawdon College, Yorkshire, assisted by the Rev. J. Kightly, Christopher, eldest son of James Shorrocks, Esq., of Astley Bank, Over Darwen, to Jane, eldest daughter of the late James Cheetham, Esq., Firwood, Chadderton. No cards.

LOWERY—REEVE.—Dec. 3, at London-road Chapel, Leicester, by the Rev. R. W. McAll, Mr. Wm. Lowery, to Miss Edith Eliza Reeve.

WILKINS—AVELING.—Dec. 3, at Kingsland Congregational Church, by the Rev. C. Dukes, M.A., assisted by the Rev. Geo. Wilkins, Robert Francis, second son of F. C. Wilkins, Esq., of Upper Clapton, to Mary Elizabeth, eldest daughter of the Rev. Thos. Aveling, of Kingsland. No cards.

OATES—PARNELL.—Dec. 4, at Cavendish-street Chapel, Manchester, by the Rev. J. Wheelton, Mr. Robert Oates, to Miss Elizabeth Laura Parnell.

RHODES—ATKINSON.—Dec. 7, at the Independent Chapel, Knottingley, by the Rev. E. Gately, Mr. George Rhodes, to Mary, eldest daughter of the late Mr. George Atkinson, of Stafford.

DEATHS.

JOHNSON.—Nov. 24, at Gaines, Upminster, Essex, Thomas Johnson, Esq., aged seventy-six.

PENNY.—Nov. 25, suddenly, Mr. Henry Penny, of Carisbrook Cottage, Highbury-grove, Islington, and 11, Old Bailey, London, aged fifty-six.

WALKER.—Nov. 29, at his residence, Burton-street, Wakefield, Ebenezer Walker, Esq., surgeon, Royal Navy, in the seventy-eighth year of his age, and whose remains were deposited in the family vault at the cemetery, Dec. 2.

STARKEY.—Nov. 30, at Park-villas, Hammersmith, aged seventy, Miss Mary Ann Starkey, youngest child and last surviving member of the family of the late John Starkey, Esq., of Upper Hall, Moreton, Essex. Friends will kindly accept this intimation.

ROBINSON.—Dec. 1, aged thirty-eight years, Mr. Edward Robinson, draper, of West Bromwich, deacon of the church worshipping in Ebenezer Chapel, and greatly respected.

FERGUSON.—Dec. 2, at Grove Hill Glebe, Camberwell, aged eighteen, Anna, the eldest daughter of Mr. A. M. Ferguson, of Ceylon.

DANIELL.—Dec. 4, aged fifteen years, Mary Ellen, eldest daughter of the Rev. W. Daniell, Independent minister, Great Ouseburn, near York.

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, Dec. 7.

There was a fair show of English wheat on offer this morning, for which last week's rates were demanded, but the condition being somewhat affected by the damp state of the weather sales progressed slowly, and the prices of this day week were barely obtained. There has been less animation to-day in the trade for foreign wheat, but we quote no alteration in value. Barley of all descriptions sells very slowly, and to press sales of grinding sorts less money would have to be taken. Beans and peas dull sale, at last Monday's prices. With only a moderate arrival of foreign oats for the past week, factors have been enabled to maintain the currency of Monday last. Most of our buyers, however, hold off, in the expectation of increased supplies, which have been kept back by contrary winds and the late heavy gales.

BREAD.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 6½d to 7d; household ditto, 5d to 6d.

BUTCHERS' MEAT, ISLINGTON, Monday, Dec. 7.

Owing to the recent gales there was a falling off in the supply of foreign beasts and sheep on sale in the market to-day, and the trade ruled firm, at, in most instances, full quotations. From our own grazing districts the receipts of beasts fresh up this morning were moderate as to numbers, and there was a decided improvement in the general quality of the stock. Compared with Monday last, there was rather less activity in the demand for most breeds; and that day's quotations were not in all instances supported. The top figure for beef was 5s 2d, but several very prime Scots and crosses changed hands at 5s per 3lbs. The arrivals from Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, and Northamptonshire comprised 2,000 shorthorns, &c.; from Norfolk, 200 Scots and crosses; from Scotland, 220 Scots and crosses; from Ireland, 700 oxen and heifers; and from other parts of England, 700 various breeds. The supply of sheep on sale was small; but the general quality of the stock was good. For all breeds the trade was very firm, and a clearance was readily effected. The prices realised were 2d per 3lbs in advance of Monday last. Prime heavy Downs realised 5s 10d; prime small ditto 6s, and, in some instances, 6s 2d per 3lbs. The number of calves on sale was small, and the trade ruled firm, at Thursday's advance in the quotations, the top figure being 5s per 3lbs. Pigs were in moderate supply, and steady request, at full currencies.

Per 3lbs. to sink the Offal.

| | s. | d. | s. | d. | | s. | d. | s. | d. | | |
|--------------------|----|----|----|----|----|--------------------|----|----|----|---|---|
| Inf. coarse beasts | 3 | 6 | to | 3 | 10 | Prime Southdown | 5 | 10 | to | 6 | 0 |
| Second quality | 4 | 0 | to | 4 | 6 | Lamb | 0 | 0 | to | 0 | 0 |
| Prime large oxen | 4 | 8 | to | 5 | 0 | Lge. coarse calves | 4 | 0 | to | 4 | 8 |
| Prime Scots, &c. | 5 | 0 | to | 5 | 2 | Prime small | 4 | 10 | to | 5 | 0 |
| Coarse inf. sheep | 4 | 0 | to | 4 | 6 | Large hogs | 3 | 6 | to | 4 | 2 |
| Second quality | 4 | 8 | to | 5 | 2 | Neatm. porkers | 4 | 4 | to | 4 | 8 |
| Pr. coarse woolled | 4 | 4 | to | 5 | 8 | | | | | | |

Snorkling calves, 15s to 25s. Quarter-old store pigs, 20s to 25s each.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, Dec. 7.

Only moderate supplies of town and country-killed meat are on sale at these markets to-day. Generally speaking, the trade is firm, and the prices are about 2d per 3lbs higher than on Monday last.

Per 3lbs by the carcase.

| | s. | d. | s. | d. | | s. | d. | s. | d. | | |
|-----------------|----|----|----|----|---|----------------|----|----|----|---|---|
| Inferior beef | 3 | 0 | to | 3 | 2 | Small pork | 4 | 2 | to | 4 | 6 |
| Middling ditto | 3 | 4 | to | 3 | 8 | Inf. mutton | 3 | 6 | to | 3 | 8 |
| Prime large do. | 3 | 10 | to | 4 | 0 | Middling ditto | 3 | 10 | to | 4 | 4 |
| Do. small do. | 4 | 2 | to | 4 | 4 | Prime ditto | 4 | 6 | to | 4 | 8 |
| Large pork | 3 | 6 | to | 4 | 0 | Veal | 3 | 8 | to | 4 | 8 |

PRODUCE MARKET, TUESDAY, Dec. 8.

TEA.—The public sales have proceeded with very little animation, and prices generally show a decline of 1d to 1½d per lb on medium to good qualities of Congou.

SUGAR.—The amount of business done has been to a very limited extent. At public sale a small parcel of Manila sold at a decline of 3s 3d to 3s 6d per cwt. In the refined market only a moderate business has been transacted, and quotations generally show a downward tendency.

COFFEE.—The demand in this market, both for foreign and colonial descriptions, has been very inactive, and quotations have, in most instances, been rather lower.

RICE.—Business has been of an unimportant character, at about late prices.

PROVISIONS, Monday, Dec. 7.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 4,703 firkins butter, and 3,353 bales of bacon; and from foreign ports 13,371 casks butter, and 432 bales and 299 boxes of bacon. In the Irish butter market there was but a limited amount of business transacted last week, and prices were in favour of buyers. Foreign met a steady sale, and best Dutch advanced to 11½s at the close of the week. The bacon market ruled flat, and a further decline of 1s to 2s per cwt on the quotations of last week was submitted, to some sales of best Waterford made at 5½s, 5½s on board for shipment.

POTATOES.—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, Dec. 7.—Full average supplies of potatoes are on sale at these markets. For all qualities the trade has ruled inactive, yet quotations—although in some instances rather lower—have been without material change from Monday last. The arrivals from foreign ports last week were confined to a few parcels from Rotterdam, Hamburg, Groningen, and Guernsey, amounting in the aggregate to only 120 bags. Yorkshire Regents 70s to 80s, ditto Flukes 85s to 95s, Kent and Essex Regents 60s to 80s, ditto Rocks 50s to 60s, Perth, Forfar, and Fifeshire Regents 70s to 80s per ton.

WOOL, Monday, Dec. 7.—Since our last report there has been a falling off in the business doing in nearly all kinds of English wool, both for home use and export to the continent, chiefly owing to the rapid advance in the price of money in the discount market, and late quotations are supported. The supplies on offer are only moderate, and the stocks held by our manufacturers are somewhat limited.

FLAX, HEMP, COIR, &c., Saturday, Dec. 5.—We have to report a firm trade for flax, at the full rates of this day week, both for Egyptian and Russian qualities. The demand for hemp is less steady, at 38½ 10s to 40½ 10s per ton for clean Russian descriptions. Jute supports previous prices, but the demand is by no means active. Coir goods, however, are steady in price.

SEEDS, Monday, Dec. 7.—The trade for seeds keeps about the same as last week. Fine descriptions of English red and white clover occasionally; but there is no inquiry for medium and inferior qualities. Very little business doing in foreign qualities. White cloverseed sells very slowly. Trefoil is without change in value. Canaryseed, with small supply, is held for higher prices.

OIL, Monday, Dec. 7.—The business passing in linseed oil continues dull, and the quotation has fallen to 37s per cwt on the spot. Rape has further declined, foreign refined being now quoted at 41s 6d to 42s, and brown at 38s 6d per cwt. Coconut oil moves off slowly, at 44s 6d to 45s. Fine palm is quoted at 36s 6d to 37s per cwt; Gallipoli olive 55½ 10s to 59½, and sperm 78½ to 80½ per ton. Turpentine moves off slowly, and French spirits have fallen to 61s to 61s 6d per cwt. Tar is dull, at 21s per barrel for Swedish. Rosin meets with a slow inquiry.

COALS, Monday, Dec. 7.—Owing to the heavy gales there has been no ships for to-day's market, except the screw steamers. Hetton's 20s 6d, Tees 20s, Lambton ex screw steamers 20s, Gosforth 18s 6d, Turnhall 18s 6d, Trimdon Grange 18s, Hartley's 16s.—Fresh arrivals, 30.

TALLOW, Monday, Dec. 7.—The tallow trade is very dull to-day, and a heavy fall has taken place in prices. F.Y.C. is quoted at 41s per cwt on the spot. Town tallow commands 40s 3d per cwt net cash. Rough fat has fallen to 2s 1d per cwt.

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